★恐怖と戦りつの怪虫群が出現!!　翔の目の前にみるみる白骨の山が!!　飢えと不安の極限状態のなか、最悪の危機をむかえた翔の運命は!?　はるか時と空間をへだてた異境で、たくましく生きる、少年たちの愛と勇気を描く、異色大ロマン!!

SS comics

漂流教室 5

楳図かずお

漂流教室 5
楳図かずお

Shonen Sunday Comics

SS comics
楳図かずお

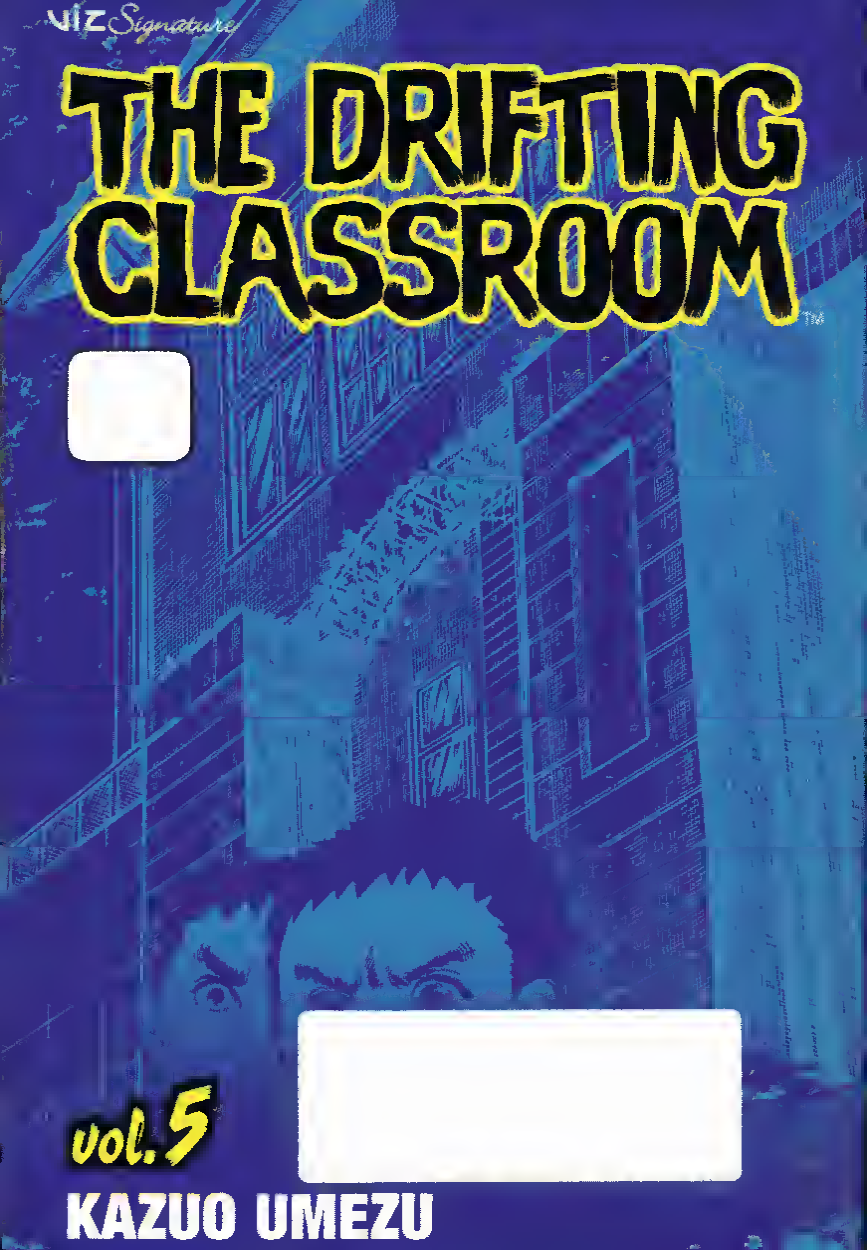
小学館

SSC－5

楳図かずお

VIZ Signature

THE DRIFTING CLASSROOM



vol. 5

KAZUO UMEZU

THE DRIFTING CLASSROOM™

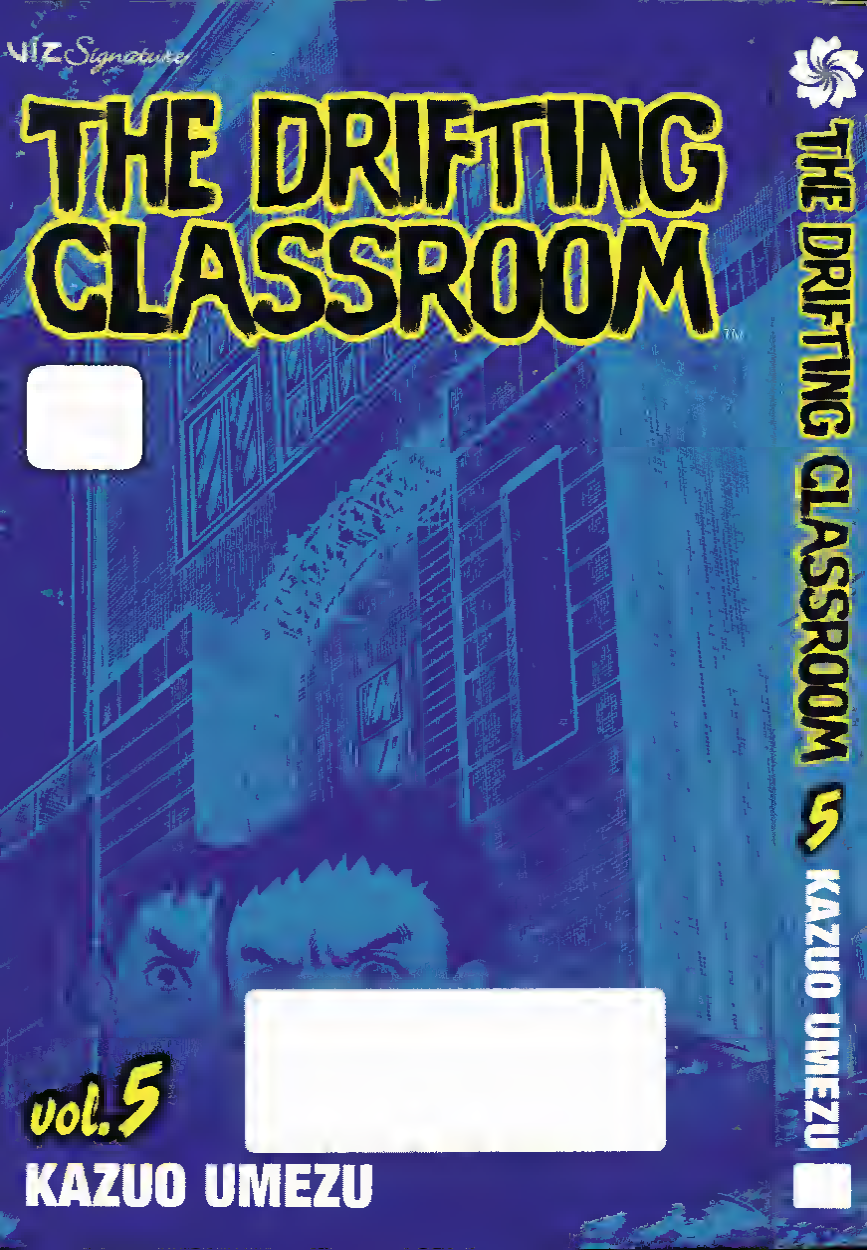
"In horror, few have coma close to Kazuo Umezu…At every turn, Umezu demonstrates an understanding of the fiendish undercurrents that can plague a child's mind…It's ***Lord of the Flies*** on amphetamines…a comic so highly evolved it may take a few more decades before anything similar is produced in the West."
—The Comics Journal

Out of nowhere, a Japanese elementary school is transported into a hostile world. Now, the students and teachers must struggle to survive in impossible conditions, besieged by terrifying creatures and beset by madness. Part horror, part science fiction, ***The Drifting Classroom*** is a classic can't-put-down manga series from horror manga master Kazuo Umezu ***(Orochi: Blood, Baptism of Blood)!***

The students flee from man-eating insects, but they can't run from a deadly plague. As the situation becomes more desperate, the children arm themselves, and the school erupts into an orgy of violence. Can Sho end the savagery, or is it all ha can do just to survive? Meanwhile, out in the wasteland, the shifting sands uncover a buried secret from the past...

VIZ Signature

THE DRIFTING CLASSROOM



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THE DRIFTING CLASSROOM 5 KAZUO UMEZU

THE DRIFTING CLASSROOM™

vol. 5

KAZUO UMEZU

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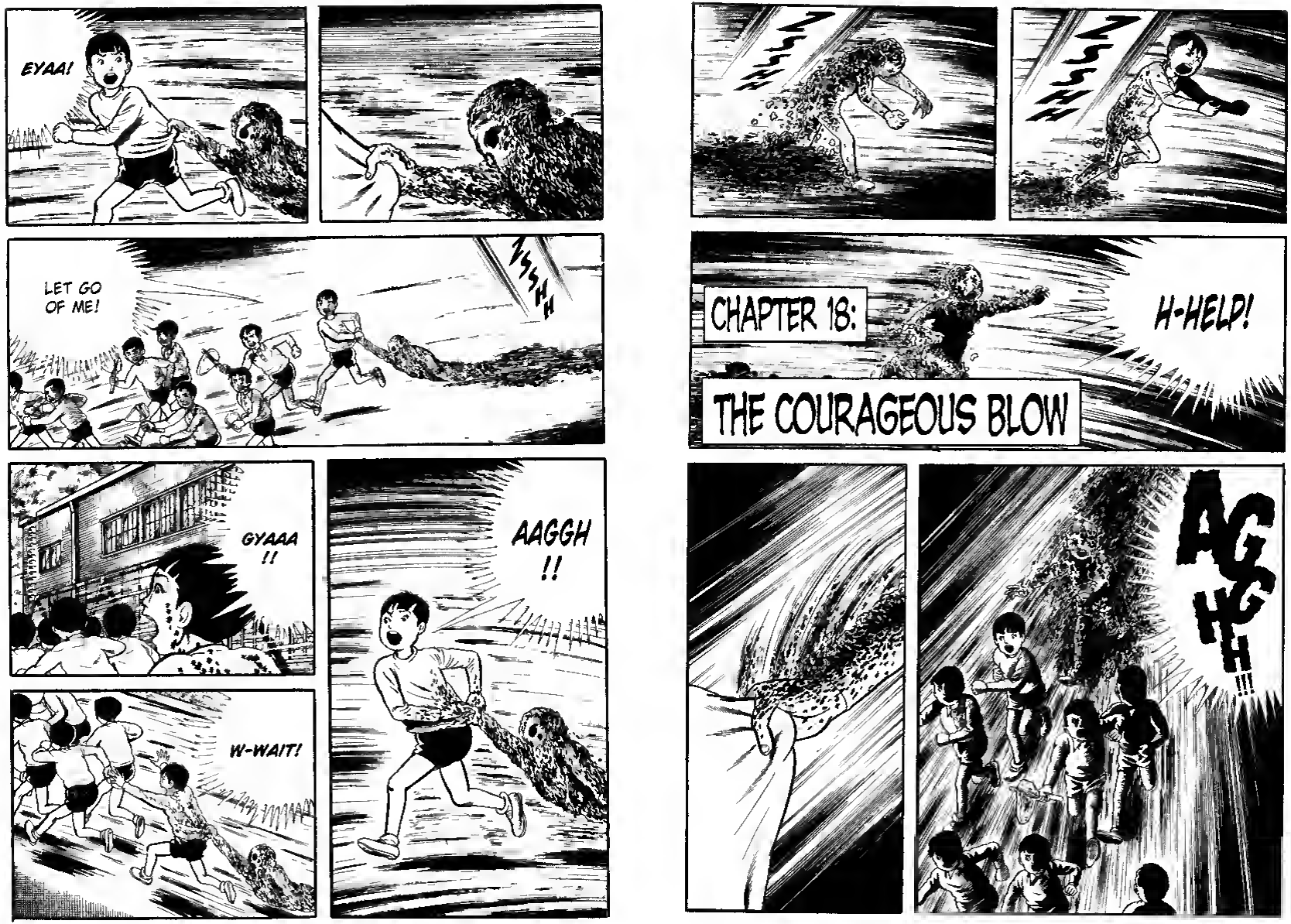
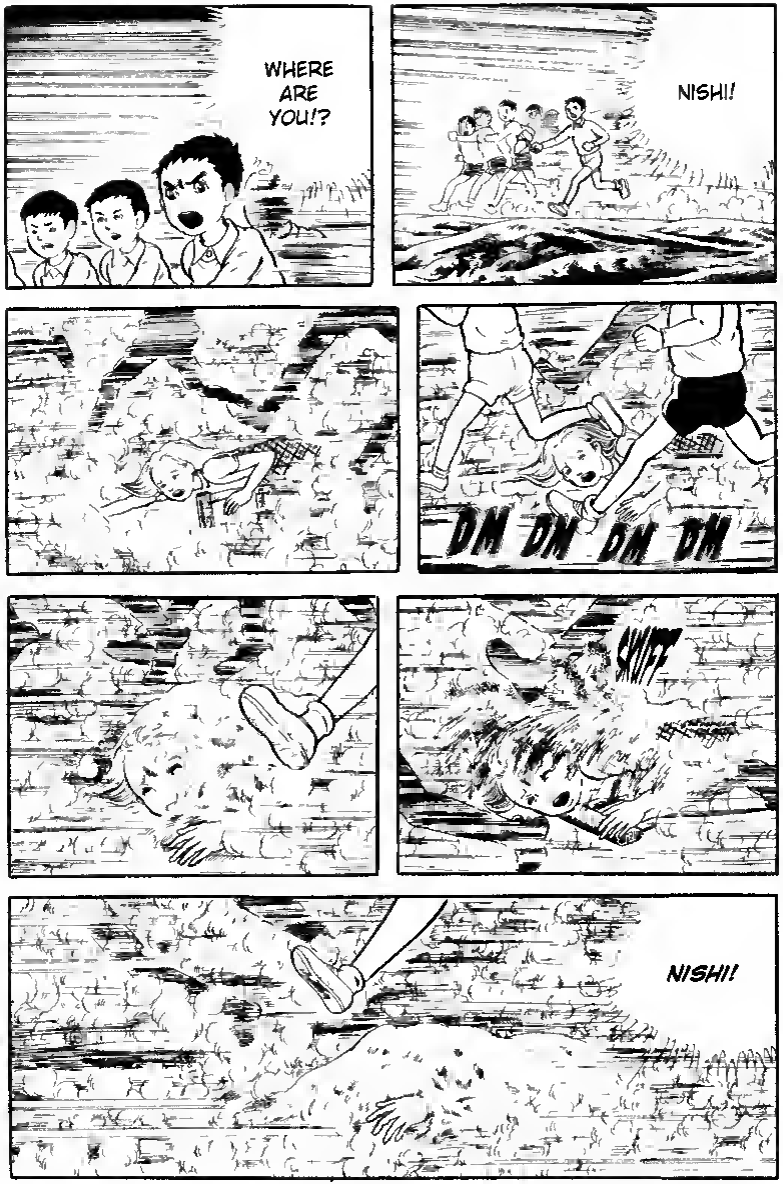
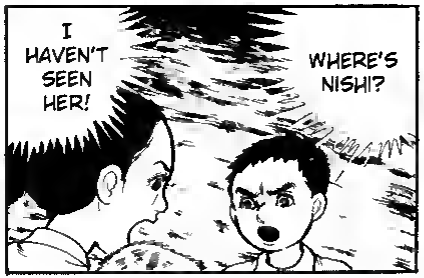
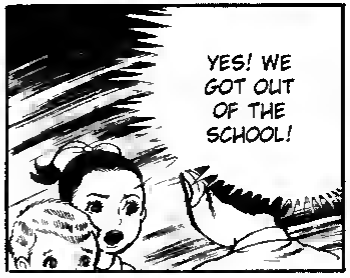

CHAPTER 18:
THE COURAGEOUS BLOW
H-HELP!
AGGH!!
EYAA!
LET GO OF ME!
GYAAA !!
AAGGH !!
W-WAIT!


WHERE ARE YOU!?
NISHI!
DM DM DM DM
SWIFF
NISHI!

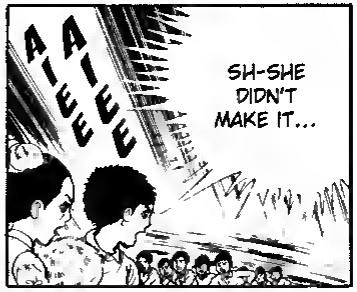
AGGHH !
GET THEM OFF! GET THEM OFF!
ZSSHH
ZSSHH
ZSSHH
GGGHH!
ZSSHH
AIEEE!

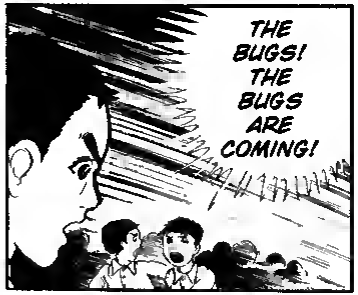
SO EVERYONE'S OKAY!?
SAKI! YU! YOU'RE ALL RIGHT!


I HAVEN'T SEEN HER!
WHERE'S NISHI?


YES! WE GOT OUT OF THE SCHOOL!

ZZSSHH
AGGGHH!


AIEE
AIEE
SH-SHE DIDN'T MAKE IT...


THE BUGS! THE BUGS ARE COMING!

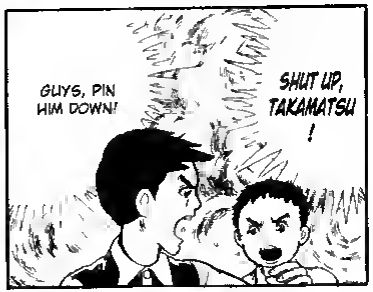
NISHI!

OH!

SHO!
OH MY GOD! IT'S SHO!

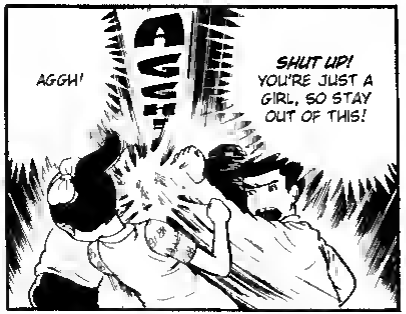
YOU CAN'T JUST KILL HIM!
STOP IT, OTOMO!

HEY!


GUYS, PIN HIM DOWN!
SHUT UP, TAKAMATSU!

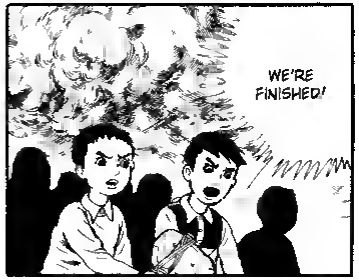
HE'S OUR PRIME MINISTER! WE VOTED FOR HIM!

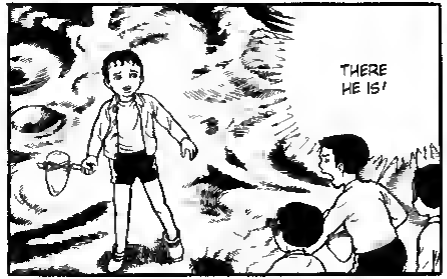
WHAT ARE YOU DOING!?
LET ME GO!

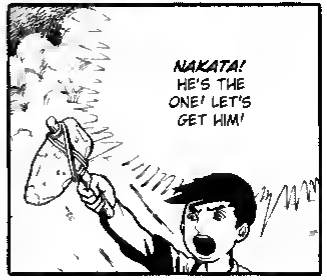

AGGH!
SHUT UP! YOU'RE JUST A GIRL, SO STAY OUT OF THIS!

AIEEE!

WHAT!?
THEY'LL NEVER STOP! WE HAVE TO SACRIFICE SOMEONE SO THE REST OF US CAN ESCAPE!

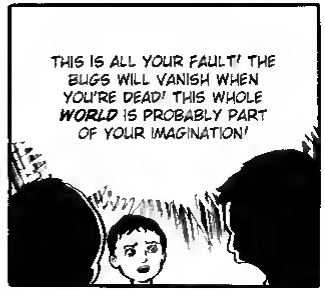

WE'RE FINISHED!


THERE HE IS!

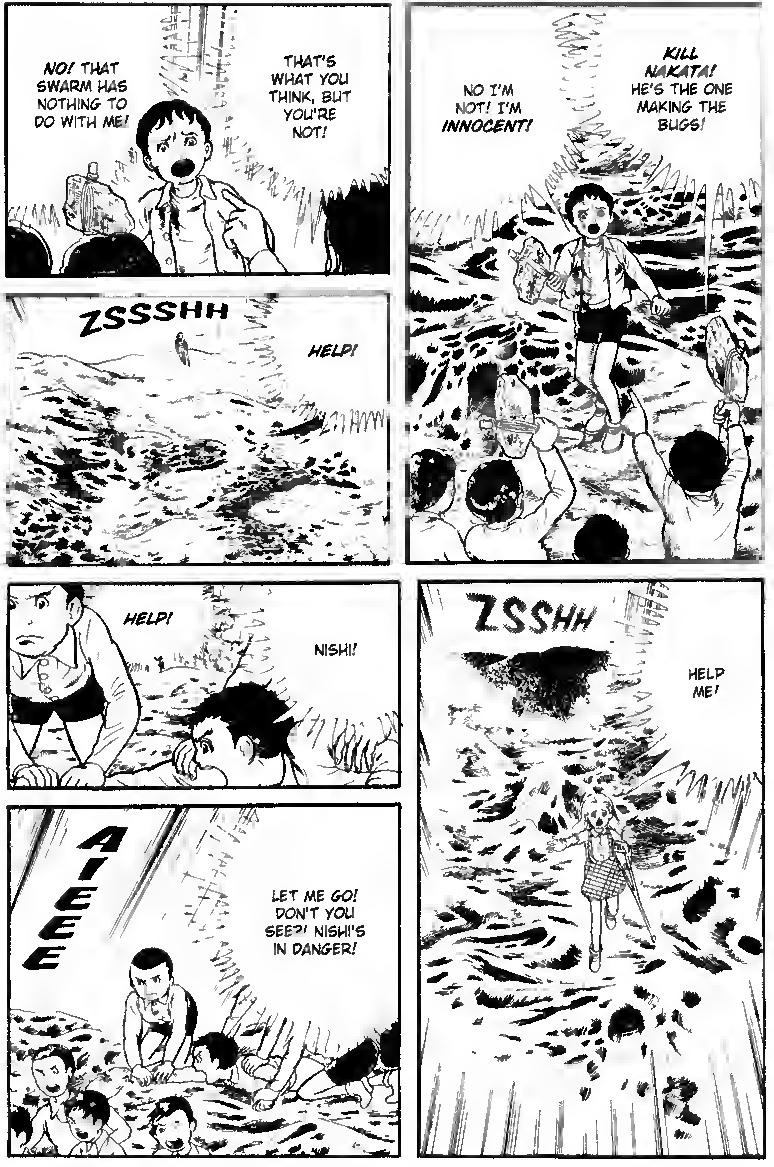

NAKATA! HE'S THE ONE! LET'S GET HIM!

HOLD ON! YOU DON'T MEAN WHAT YOU'RE SAYING!

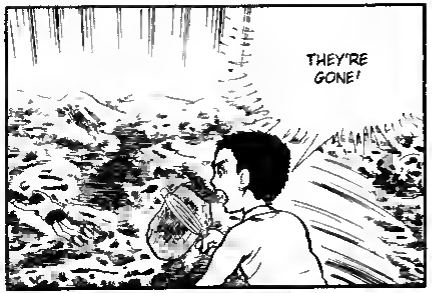
NO IT ISN'T!

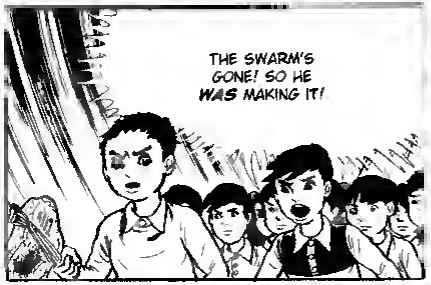

THIS IS ALL YOUR FAULT! THE BUGS WILL VANISH WHEN YOU'RE DEAD! THIS WHOLE WORLD IS PROBABLY PART OF YOUR IMAGINATION!

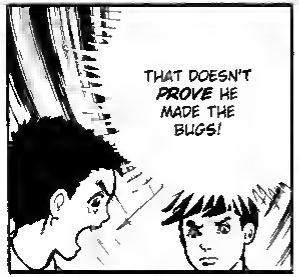
AIEE, EEEE
NISHI, CLIMB UP SOMEWHERE!
ZSSHH
EYAAA!
ZSSH
LET'S THROW HIM TO THE BUGS!
DIE NAKATA!
ZSSH


NO! THAT SWARM HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH ME!
THAT'S WHAT YOU THINK, BUT YOU'RE NOT!
NO I'M NOT! I'M INNOCENT!
KILL NAKATA! HE'S THE ONE MAKING THE BUGS!
ZSSSHH
HELP!
HELP!
NISHI!
AIEEE
LET ME GO! DON'T YOU SEE?! NISHI'S IN DANGER!
ZSSHH
HELP ME!

NAKATA!
NISHI!
ZSSSHH
GASP!
ZSSH
AIEE!
ZSSH
ZSSH
NOOOO !!!
LEAVE HER ALONE!
NO!
I HATE THIS WORLD! I WANT OUR WORLD BACK! I WANT THIS NIGHTMARE TO GO AWAY!
WATCH ME! I'LL DIE ON MY OWN!

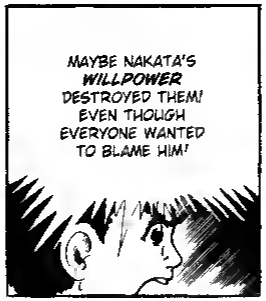

THEY'RE GONE!


THE SWARM'S GONE! SO HE *WAS* MAKING IT!


THAT DOESN'T *PROVE* HE MADE THE BUGS!

YOU IDIOT!

NAKATA !


MAYBE NAKATA'S *WILLPOWER* DESTROYED THEM! EVEN THOUGH EVERYONE WANTED TO BLAME HIM!

THEY MIGHT HAVE BEEN REAL!

YAAH!
DON'T FORGET ME, NISH!!

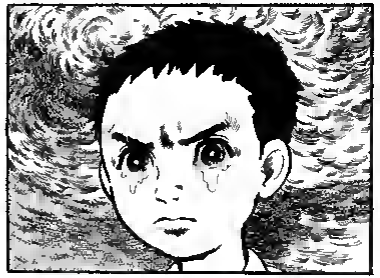
KR—AK

WHUD

AGGH!

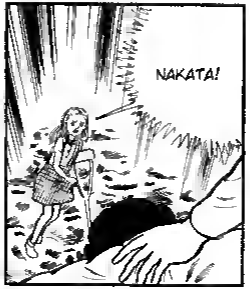
CHAPTER 19 THE FATAL THIRST

OTOMO ..



COME HERE! I WANT TO TALK TO YOU!

H-HE'S DEAD!


NAKATA!

NAKATA!

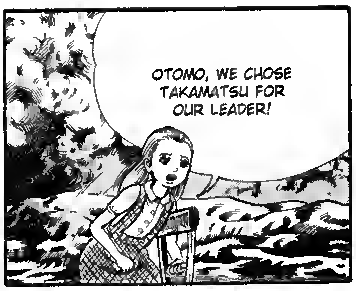
I PROMISE I'LL ALWAYS REMEMBER YOU!

NAKATA, YOUR DEATH WON'T BE IN VAIN!

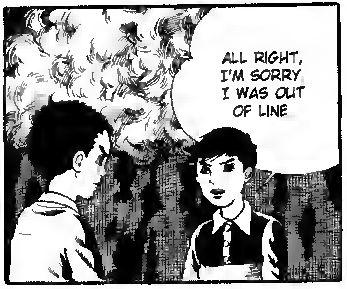
WE WERE ABOUT TO FACE SOMETHING MUCH WORSE...SOMETHING THAT WOULD TEAR US APART.

WE WERE TRAPPED IN A WORLD THAT MADE NO SENSE...BUT WE HAD NO TIME TO WALLOW IN OUR SADNESS
MOTHER... WHAT HAPPENED WITH NAKATA ONLY SHOWED HOW TERRIFIED WE ALL WERE

OH, THAT'S RIGHT I FORGOT YOU'RE THE PRIME MINISTER.


OTOMO, WE CHOSE TAKAMATSU FOR OUR LEADER!

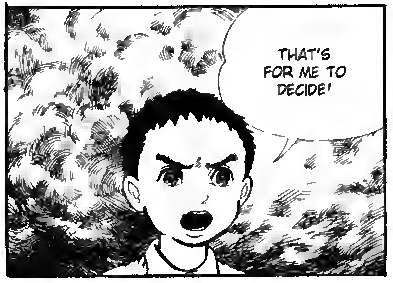
LET'S TRY TO WORK TOGETHER FRIENDS?


ALL RIGHT, I'M SORRY I WAS OUT OF LINE

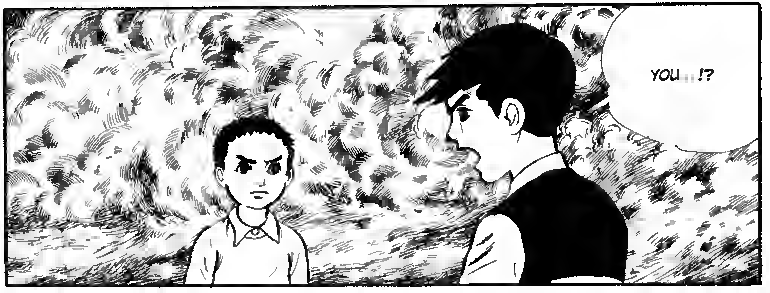
FRIENDS!

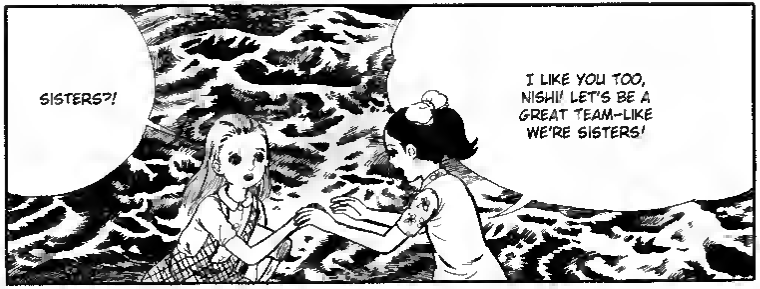
YOU WERE LEADING THE MOB THAT WANTED TO KILL NAKATA! YOU DIDN'T KNOW THAT IT WOULD WORK!

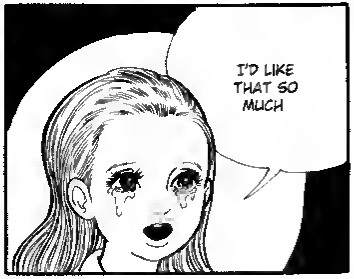
YOU CAN'T JUST DECIDE TO LET SOMEONE DIE! WE ONLY HAVE EACH OTHER YOU KNOW THAT!
WE HAVE TO TRY TO PROTECT EVERYONE!


THAT'S FOR ME TO DECIDE!

THERE WASN'T ANY TIME! I HAD TO DO SOMETHING!

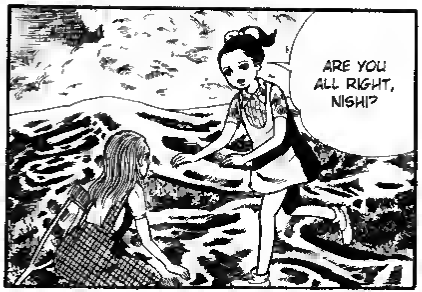

YOU...!?


SISTERS?!
I LIKE YOU TOO, NISHI! LET'S BE A GREAT TEAM-LIKE WE'RE SISTERS!

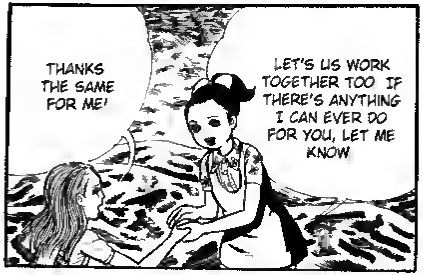

I'D LIKE THAT SO MUCH

OTOMO, TAKE HIS LEGS! LET'S BURY HIM BACK AT SCHOOL

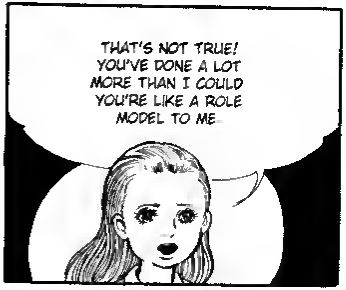
LET'S GO!

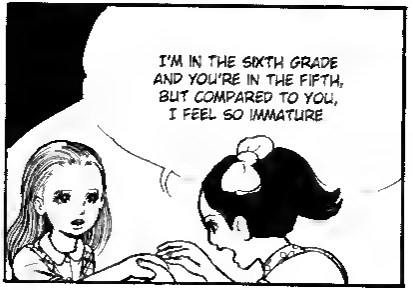

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, NISHI?

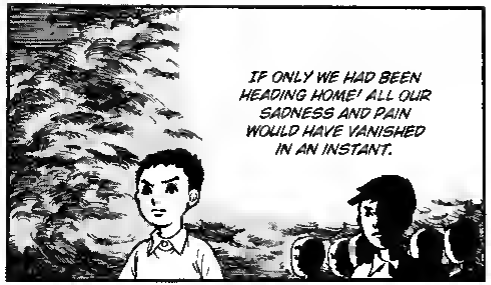
OKAY, LET'S GO BACK TO THE SCHOOL! WE'VE GOT A LOT TO TAKE CARE OF!


THANKS THE SAME FOR ME!
LET'S US WORK TOGETHER TOO IF THERE'S ANYTHING I CAN EVER DO FOR YOU, LET ME KNOW

I'M AYUMI AYUMI NISHI!
BY THE WAY, I'M SAKIKO KAWADA

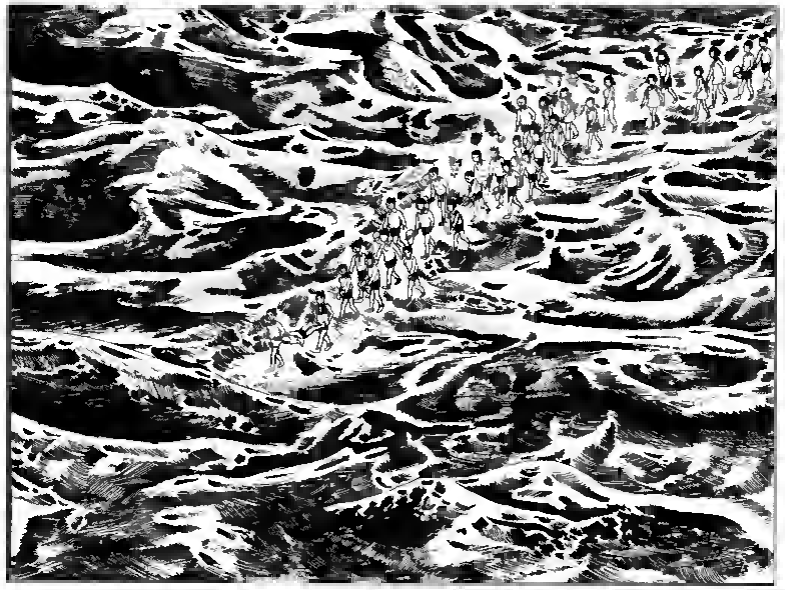

THAT'S NOT TRUE! YOU'VE DONE A LOT MORE THAN I COULD YOU'RE LIKE A ROLE MODEL TO ME


I'M IN THE SIXTH GRADE AND YOU'RE IN THE FIFTH, BUT COMPARED TO YOU, I FEEL SO IMMATURE

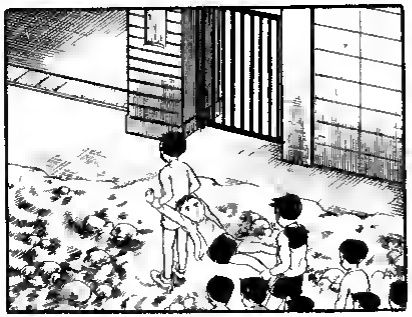

IF ONLY WE HAD BEEN HEADING HOME! ALL OUR SADNESS AND PAIN WOULD HAVE VANISHED IN AN INSTANT.

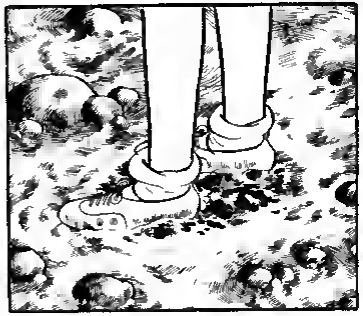
MOTHER

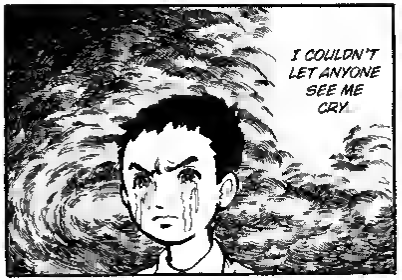
SOMETIMES I DIDN'T EVEN STOP TO EAT THE AFTERNOON SNACKS YOU MADE FOR ME.
I REMEMBERED HOW I USED TO RUN HOME AFTER SCHOOL ...



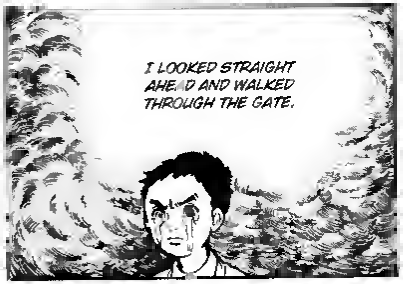
AS I APPROACHED THE SCHOOL GATE, I THOUGHT OF THE GATE TO OUR HOUSE... AND I SUDDENLY FROZE

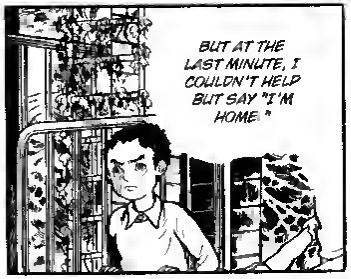




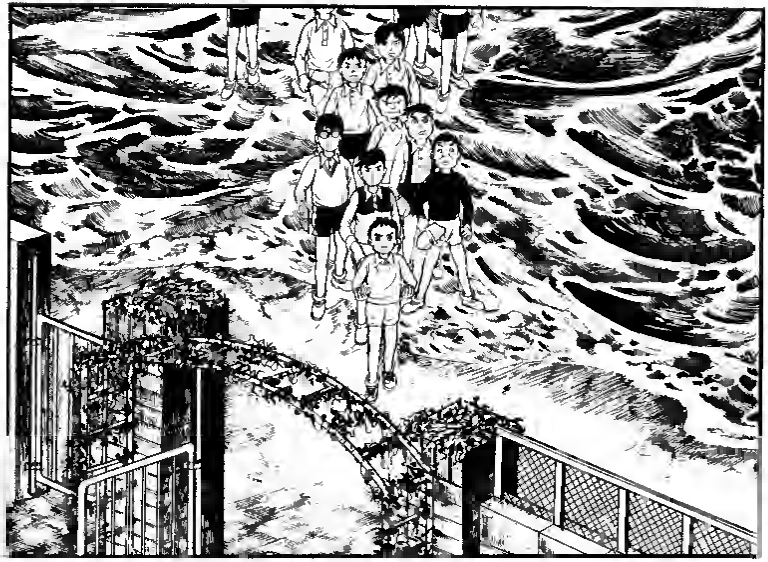

I COULDN'T LET ANYONE SEE ME CRY.

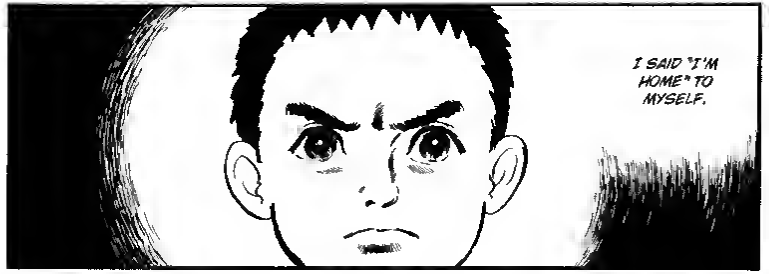
BUT I WAS THE PRIME MINISTER, SO I COULDN'T SAY ANYTHING.


I LOOKED STRAIGHT AHEAD AND WALKED THROUGH THE GATE.


BUT AT THE LAST MINUTE, I COULDN'T HELP BUT SAY "I'M HOME."

I'M HOME!



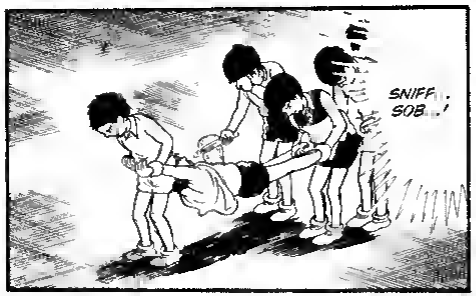

I SAID "I'M HOME" TO MYSELF.

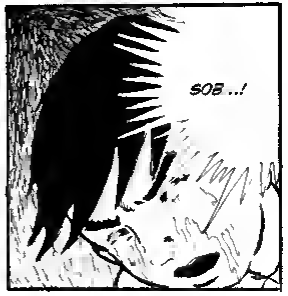
THEN I STARTED TO SHAKE ALL OVER. TEARS CAME GUSHING OUT. I COULDN'T HELP MYSELF.

SHO!

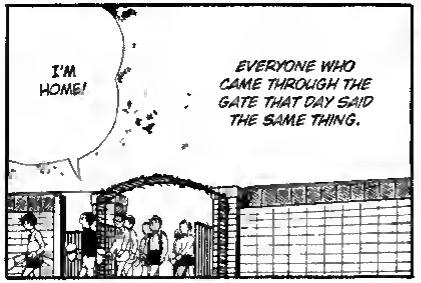
OUR SLOGAN?
LET'S MAKE THAT OUR SLOGAN

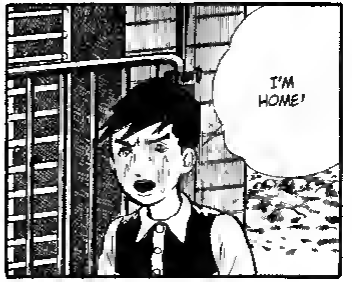
UNTIL THE DAY WHEN WE REALLY DO GO HOME!
W-WE'LL SAY IT EVERY DAY, NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS...


SNIFF... SOB...

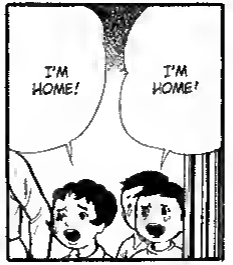

SOB...!

BUT THEN I HEARD OTOMO, WHO HAD BEEN SO TOUGH AND PRACTICAL JUST A FEW MINUTES BEFORE
DID THE OTHERS FEEL THE SAME? I DIDN'T KNOW..

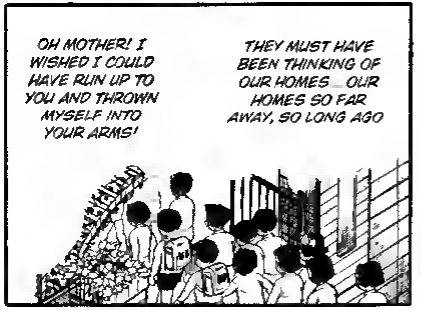

I'M HOME!
EVERYONE WHO CAME THROUGH THE GATE THAT DAY SAID THE SAME THING.

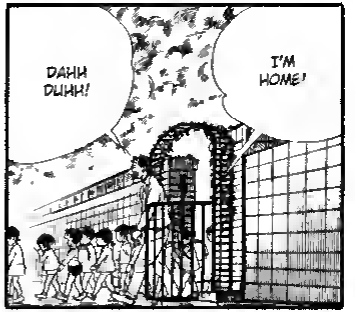

I'M HOME!

I'M HOME!


I'M HOME!
I'M HOME!

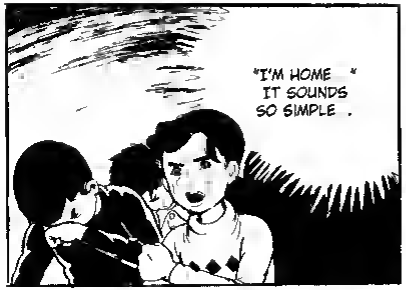
I'M HOME!


OH MOTHER! I WISHED I COULD HAVE RUN UP TO YOU AND THROWN MYSELF INTO YOUR ARMS!
THEY MUST HAVE BEEN THINKING OF OUR HOMES... OUR HOMES SO FAR AWAY, SO LONG AGO


DAHH DUHH!
I'M HOME!

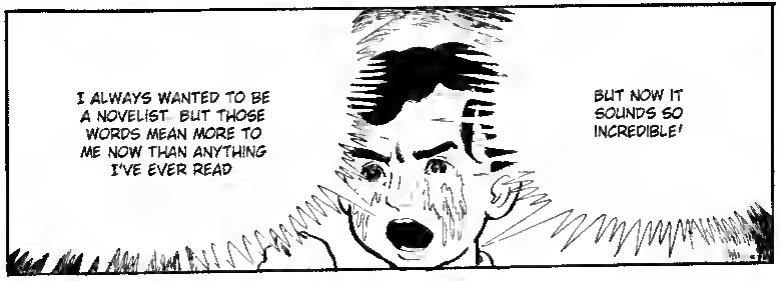
WHAM
WAAH

WAAHH--

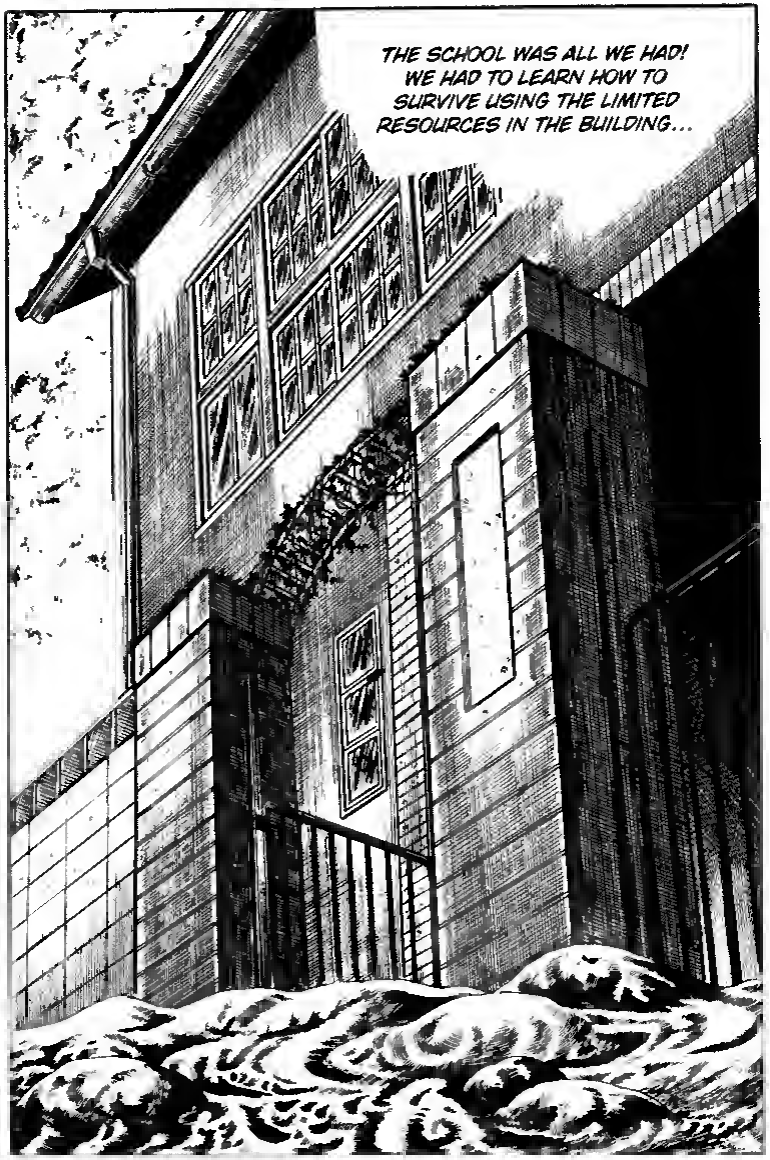

"I'M HOME "
IT SOUNDS
SO SIMPLE .

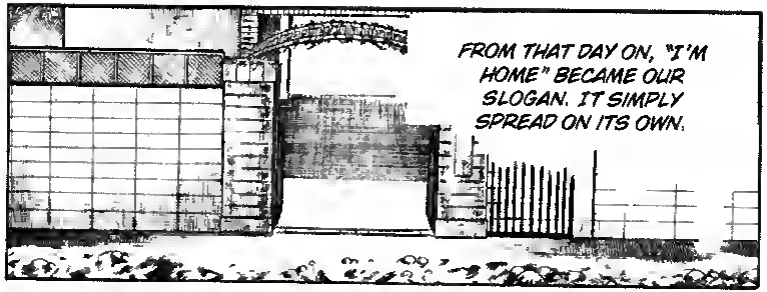
I-I
THINK
IT'S A
GREAT
IDEA!

I ALWAYS
TOOK THE
WORDS "I'M
HOME" FOR
GRANTED...
WRITING IS MY
FAVORITE
CLASS AT
SCHOOL

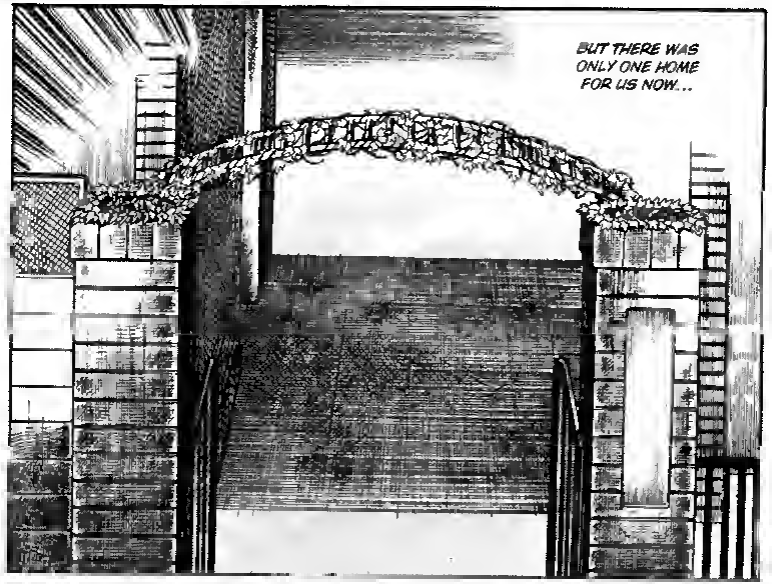

I ALWAYS WANTED TO BE
A NOVELIST. BUT THOSE
WORDS MEAN MORE TO
ME NOW THAN ANYTHING
I'VE EVER READ
BUT NOW IT
SOUNDS SO
INCREDIBLE!

NOTHING
COULD BE SO
FAR AWAY!
IT WAS SOMETHING
I USED TO SAY EVERY
DAY WITHOUT
THINKING ABOUT
IT. .BUT NOW I
CAN'T THINK OF
ANYTHING ELSE.

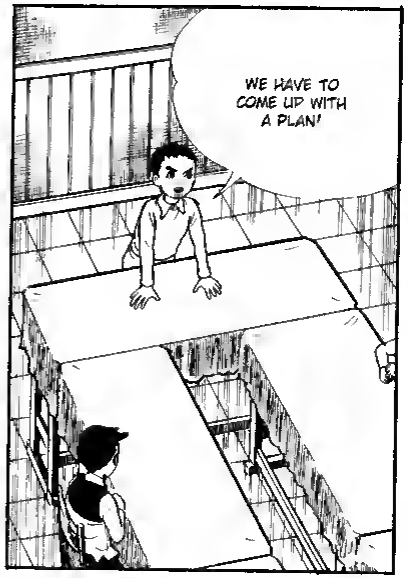

THE SCHOOL WAS ALL WE HAD! WE HAD TO LEARN HOW TO SURVIVE USING THE LIMITED RESOURCES IN THE BUILDING...

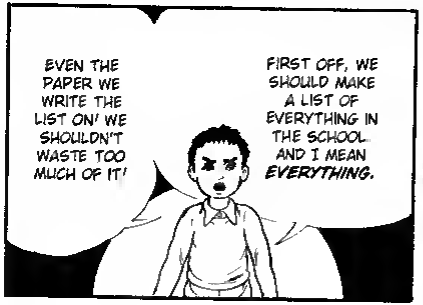

FROM THAT DAY ON, "I'M HOME" BECAME OUR SLOGAN. IT SIMPLY SPREAD ON ITS OWN.

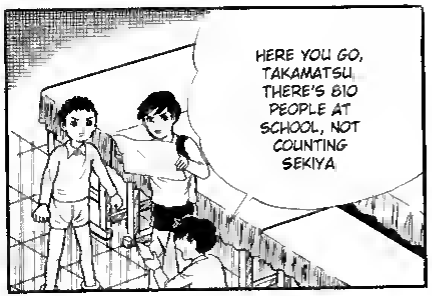
OH, IF ONLY I WAS REALLY BACK HOME, IN MY OWN HOUSE, WITH MY OWN FAMILY!

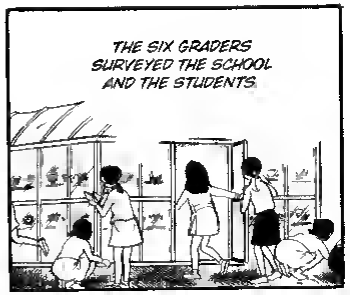

BUT THERE WAS ONLY ONE HOME FOR US NOW...

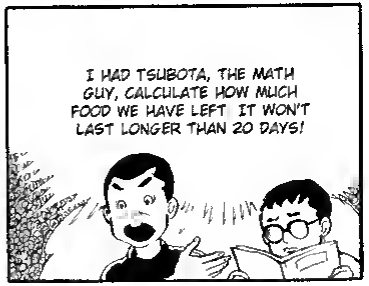
*SIGN=CONFERENCE ROOM

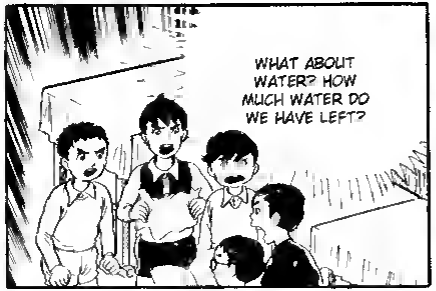


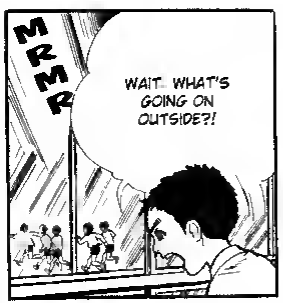

EVEN THE PAPER WE WRITE THE LIST ON, WE SHOULDN'T WASTE TOO MUCH OF IT!
FIRST OFF, WE SHOULD MAKE A LIST OF EVERYTHING IN THE SCHOOL. AND I MEAN *EVERYTHING.*





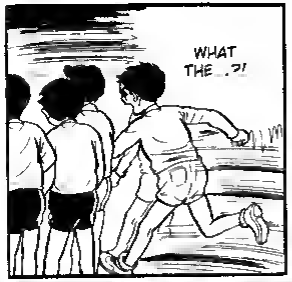


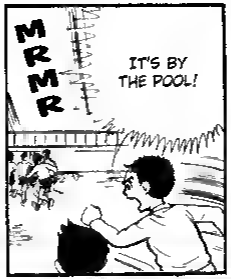


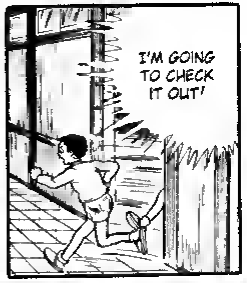

MRMR
WAIT. WHAT'S GOING ON OUTSIDE?!

HE WENT TO THE SCIENCE ROOM TO FIGURE SOMETHING OUT

HEY, WHERE DID GAMO GO?

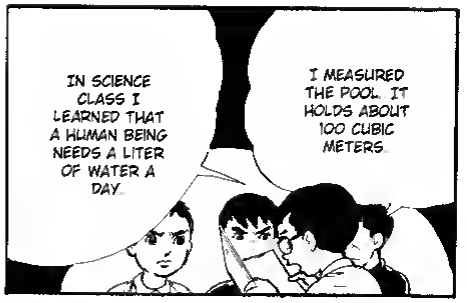

WHAT THE...?!


MRMR
IT'S BY THE POOL!

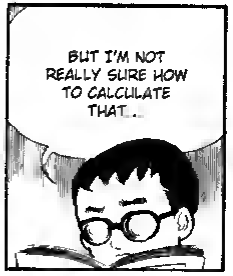

I'M GOING TO CHECK IT OUT!

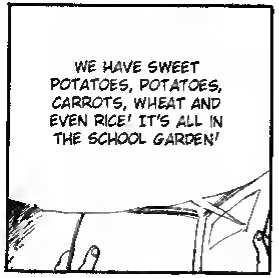
SPLASH
SPLASH
SPLASH

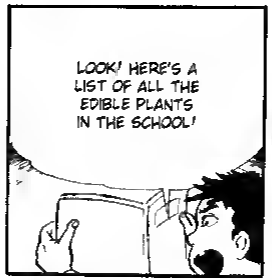
SO IT'LL LAST 100 DAYS. UNLESS THE WATER EVAPORATES...


IN SCIENCE CLASS I LEARNED THAT A HUMAN BEING NEEDS A LITER OF WATER A DAY.
I MEASURED THE POOL. IT HOLDS ABOUT 100 CUBIC METERS.

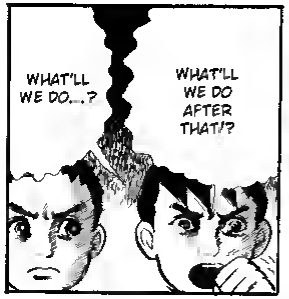
THEN AFTER THAT...
IT DOESN'T MATTER EVEN IF WE HAVE WATER, WE WON'T LAST MORE THAN 10 DAYS WITHOUT FOOD..


BUT I'M NOT REALLY SURE HOW TO CALCULATE THAT...


WE HAVE SWEET POTATOES, POTATOES, CARROTS, WHEAT AND EVEN RICE! IT'S ALL IN THE SCHOOL GARDEN!

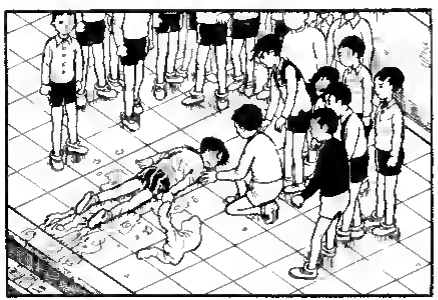

LOOK! HERE'S A LIST OF ALL THE EDIBLE PLANTS IN THE SCHOOL!

HOLD ON! I GOT MORE IDEAS!

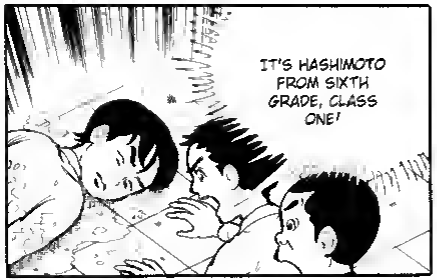

WHAT'LL WE DO...?
WHAT'LL WE DO AFTER THAT!?

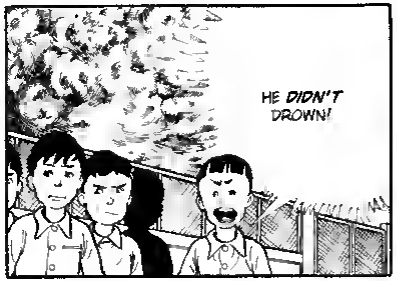
WE WON'T LAST A DAY ON THAT STUFF!

AND REMEMBER THE LITTLE BIRDS AND THE HEN? WE COULD EAT THEM...AND THEIR BIRDSEED!

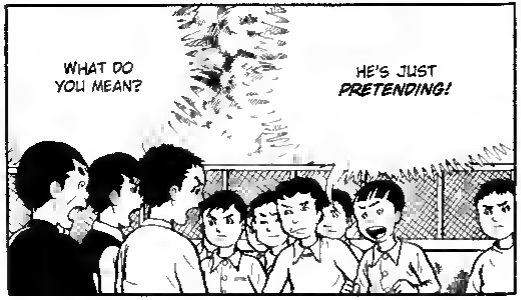


SPLASH...


IT'S HASHIMOTO FROM SIXTH GRADE, CLASS ONE!


HE DIDN'T DROWN!

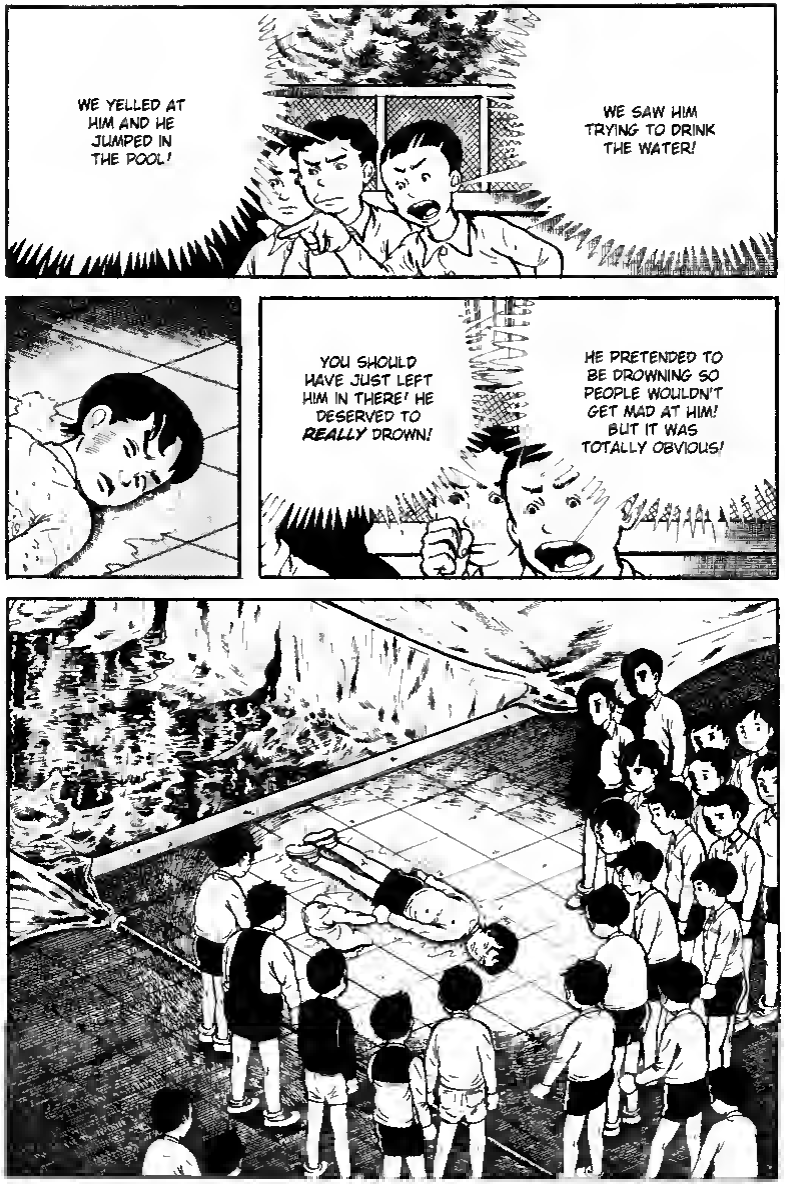
HOW COULD HE HAVE DROWNED? HE'S A GOOD SWIMMER!


WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
HE'S JUST PRETENDING!

WHAT?!

SPLASH

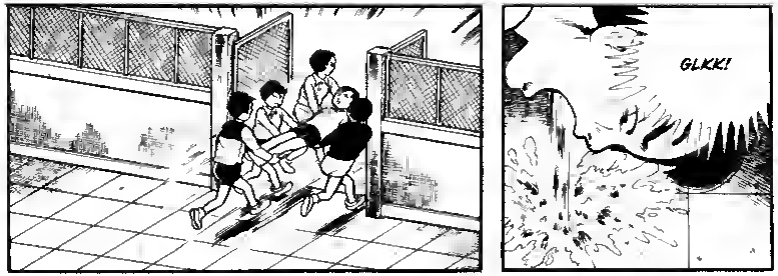
QUICK, GRAB ON!


WE YELLED AT HIM AND HE JUMPED IN THE POOL!
WE SAW HIM TRYING TO DRINK THE WATER!
YOU SHOULD HAVE JUST LEFT HIM IN THERE! HE DESERVED TO REALLY DROWN!
HE PRETENDED TO BE DROWNING SO PEOPLE WOULDN'T GET MAD AT HIM! BUT IT WAS TOTALLY OBVIOUS!

THAT WATER BELONGS TO ALL OF US!
WATCH! HE'LL GET UP AND START RUNNING!
STOP FAKING! WAKE UP! LET'S JUST KICK HIM!
URGH...!
HOLD ON!
BE QUIET!
LOOK! NOW HE'S PRETENDING TO CRY!

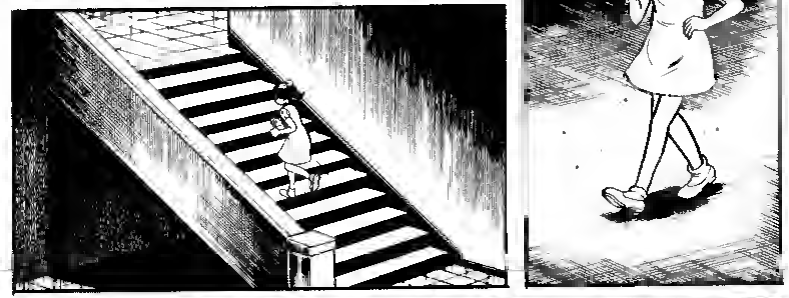
WHAT?!
HE'S NOT PRETENDING! HE'S GOT A FEVER!

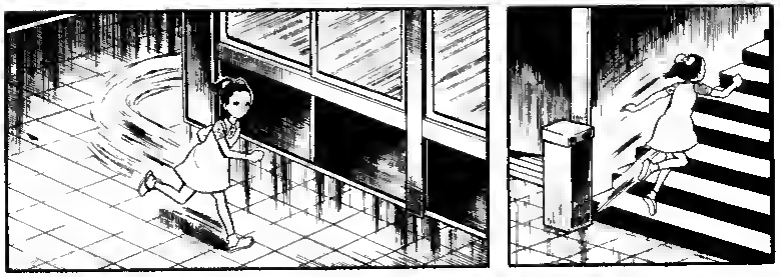
WE HAVE TO MAKE HIM THROW UP THE WATER AND THEN TAKE HIM TO THE FIRST-AID ROOM!


GLKK!

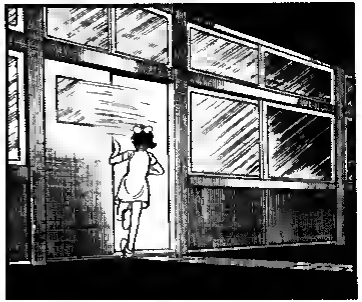
SAKI, THIS GUY'S SICK! DOES ANYONE KNOW ABOUT MEDICINE?
OH..!

HOLD ON! I'LL GO GET HIM!
I'M PRETTY SURE YANASE'S DAD IS A DOCTOR!

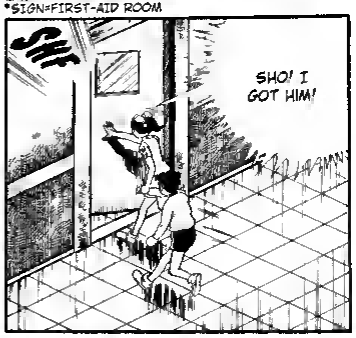


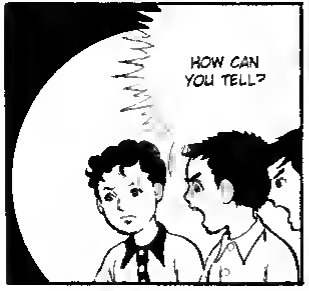


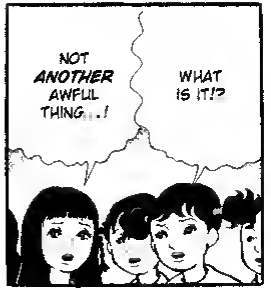
YANASE!

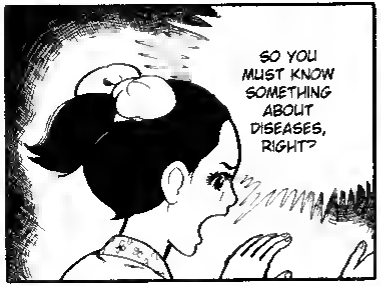


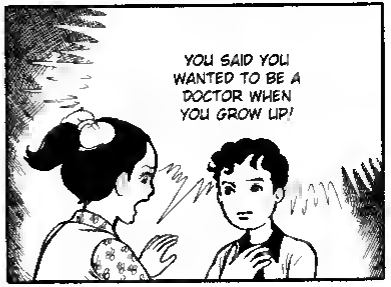
*SIGN=FIRST-AID ROOM

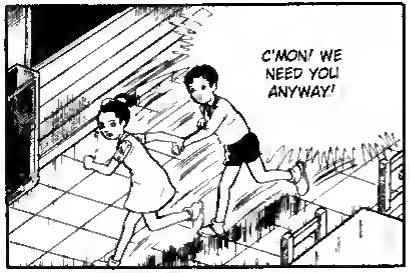


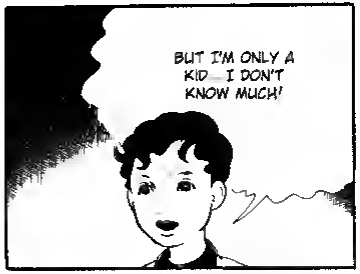


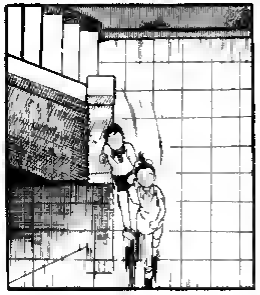


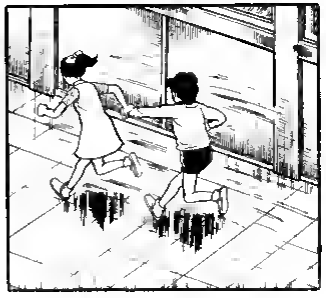


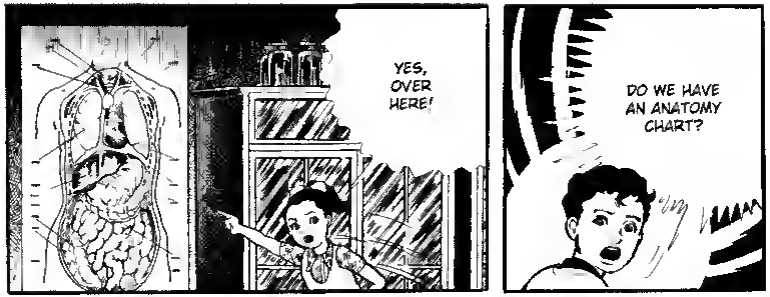


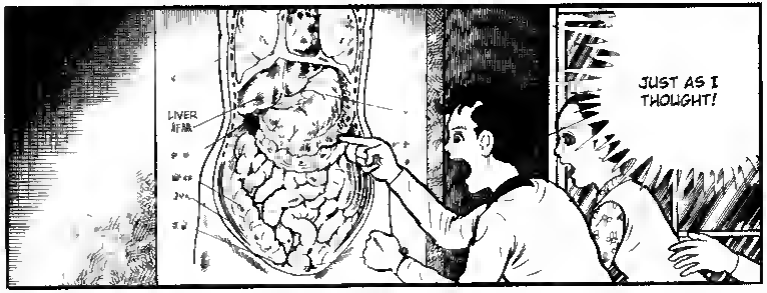






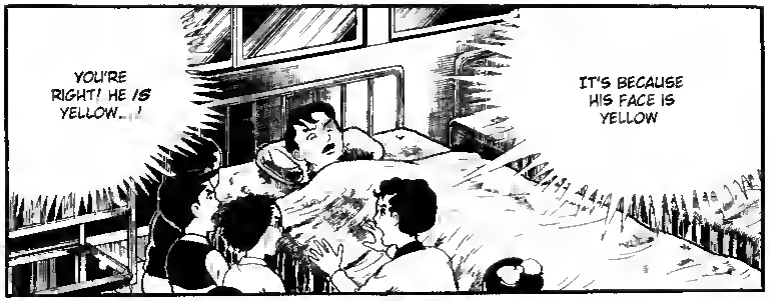



YES, OVER HERE!
DO WE HAVE AN ANATOMY CHART?


LIVER
JUST AS I THOUGHT!

HIS LIVER'S ALL SWOLLEN UP!

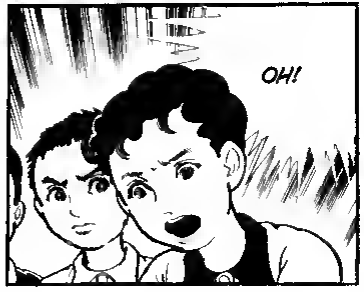
UGGH...
NGGH...

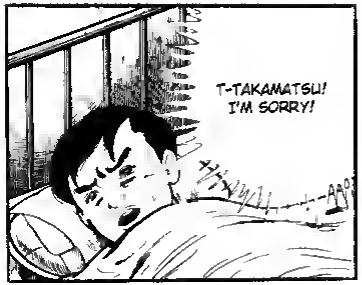

YOU'RE RIGHT! HE IS YELLOW...!
IT'S BECAUSE HIS FACE IS YELLOW

NNHH...
UNHH...

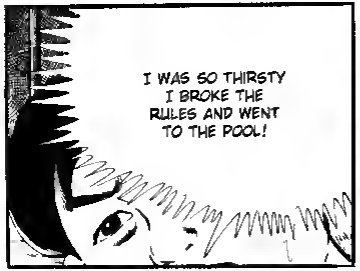
THAT COULD BE A SIGN HIS LIVER'S BAD BUT IT COULD MEAN OTHER THINGS, TOO I-I'D HAVE TO MAKE SURE...

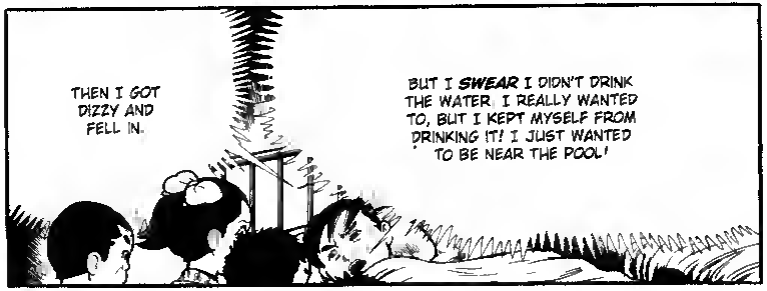
WH-WHAT IS IT!?


OH!


T-TAKAMATSU! I'M SORRY!

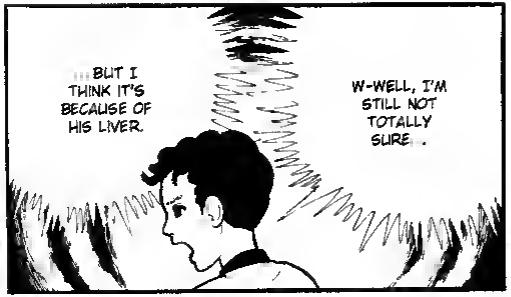
DON'T WORRY. IT'S JUST YOUR LIVER. YOU JUST NEED SOME REST

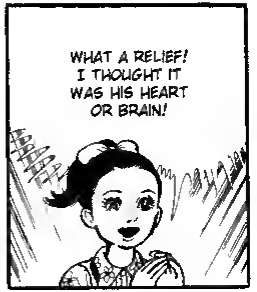

I WAS SO THIRSTY I BROKE THE RULES AND WENT TO THE POOL!


THEN I GOT DIZZY AND FELL IN.
BUT I SWEAR I DIDN'T DRINK THE WATER. I REALLY WANTED TO, BUT I KEPT MYSELF FROM DRINKING IT! I JUST WANTED TO BE NEAR THE POOL!

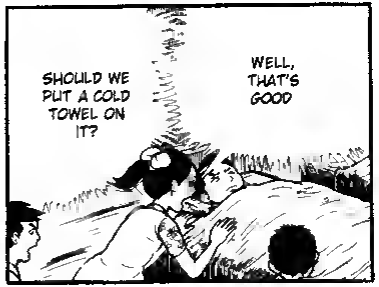
EVERYONE THINKS I WAS JUST PRETENDING TO DROWN TO STEAL WATER! BUT I WASN'T! REALLY!

I DRANK EVERYONE'S WATER!
I HURT SO BAD I ENDED UP DRINKING THE WATER.


...BUT I THINK IT'S BECAUSE OF HIS LIVER.
W-WELL, I'M STILL NOT TOTALLY SURE...

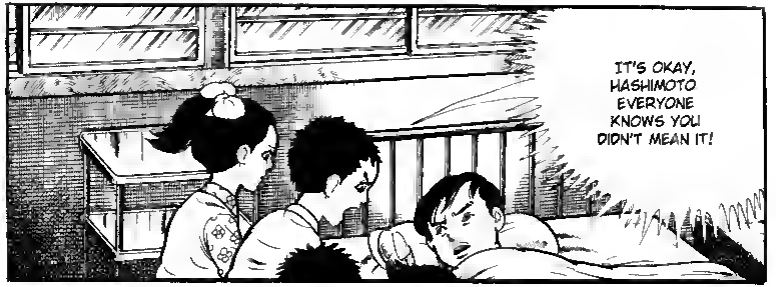

WHAT A RELIEF! I THOUGHT IT WAS HIS HEART OR BRAIN!

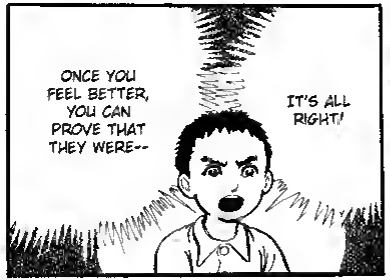
NO! THAT WON'T BE ENOUGH! YOU SEE...


SHOULD WE PUT A COLD TOWEL ON IT?
WELL, THAT'S GOOD

HASHIMOTO, ARE YOU AWAKE!?

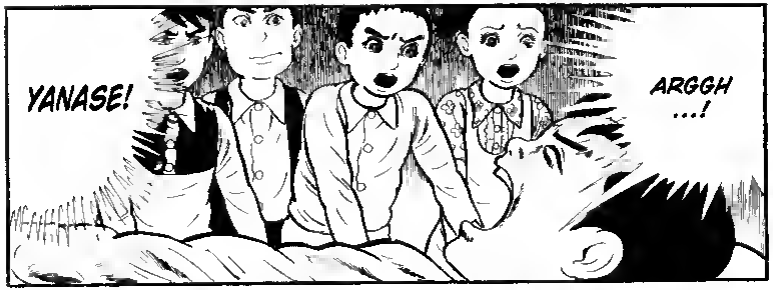
UNNH...

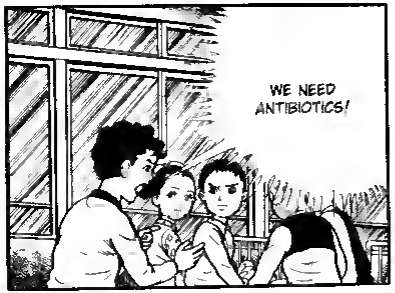

IT'S OKAY, HASHIMOTO EVERYONE KNOWS YOU DIDN'T MEAN IT!

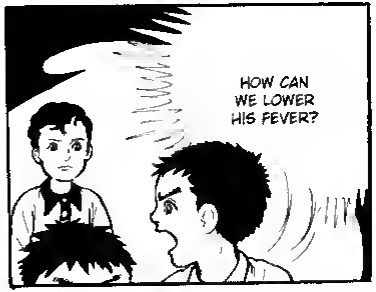

ONCE YOU FEEL BETTER, YOU CAN PROVE THAT THEY WERE--
IT'S ALL RIGHT!

I HOPE SO I REALLY HOPE SO

HASHIMOTO!
I-IT HURTS!

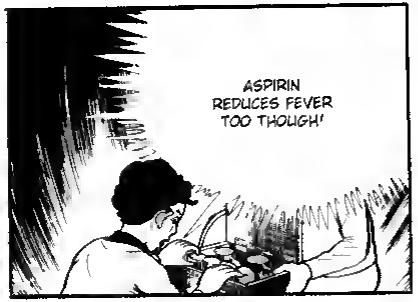

YANASE!
ARGGH ...!

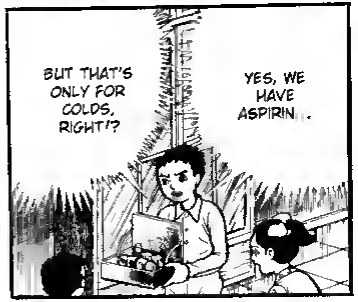

WE NEED ANTIBIOTICS!

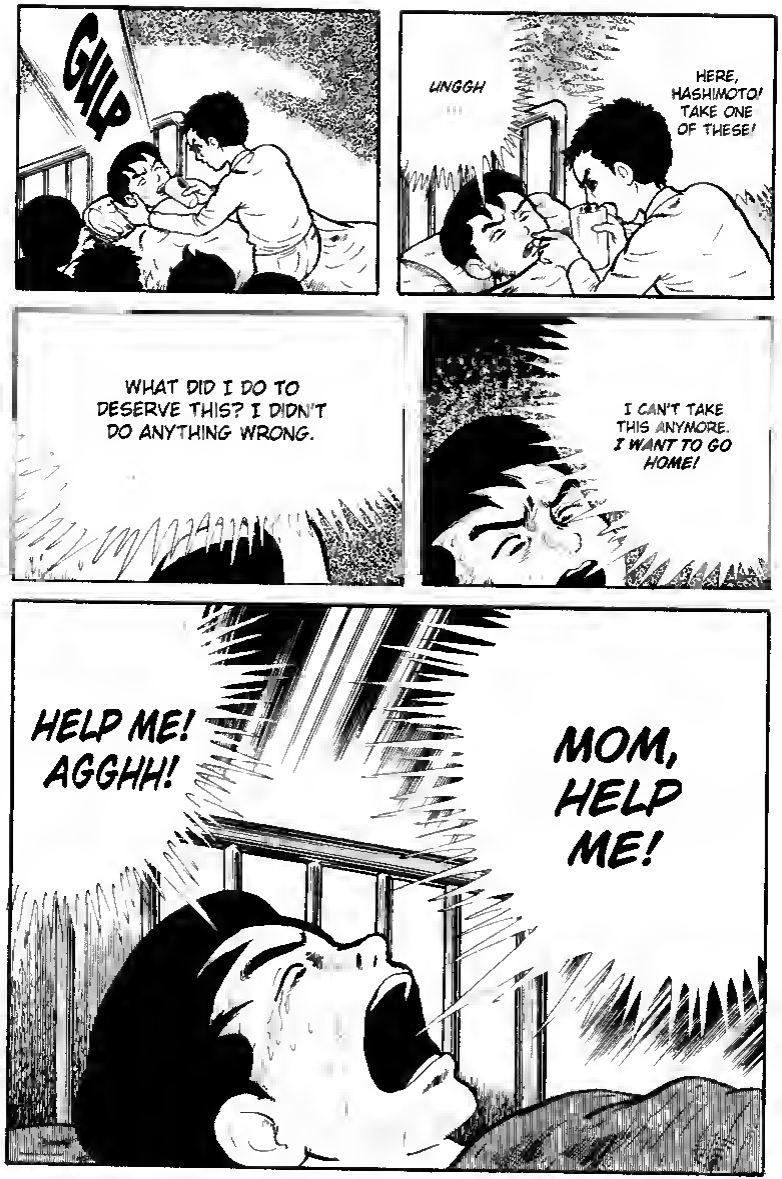

HOW CAN WE LOWER HIS FEVER?

HOW ABOUT SOME ASPIRIN?

JUST BASIC STUFF LIKE CREAMS FOR FIRST AID!
DAMN! WE DON'T HAVE THAT KIND OF MEDICINE!


ASPIRIN REDUCES FEVER TOO THOUGH!


BUT THAT'S ONLY FOR COLDS, RIGHT!?
YES, WE HAVE ASPIRIN.

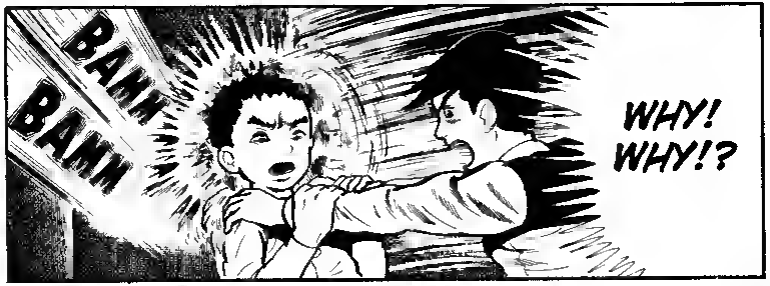

GULP
LNGGH...
HERE, HASHIMOTO! TAKE ONE OF THESE!
WHAT DID I DO TO DESERVE THIS? I DIDN'T DO ANYTHING WRONG.
I CAN'T TAKE THIS ANYMORE. I WANT TO GO HOME!
HELP ME! AGGHH!
MOM, HELP ME!

WH-WHAT DO WE DO NOW!? IF THE REST OF THE SCHOOL HEARS HIM CRYING, THEY'LL PANIC!
H-HASHIMOTO! CALM DOWN!
UNGH! AGGH!
PLEASE BE QUIET! YOU'RE GOING TO BE OKAY!
SHO, I NEED TO TALK TO YOU...
GOT IT. COME ON, HASHIMOTO!
UM... RUBBING HIS BACK MIGHT HELP.
...BUT I DON'T THINK HE'S GOING TO MAKE IT.
THIS IS JUST BETWEEN YOU AND ME...

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
WE CAN'T AFFORD TO SPEND OUR FOOD...AND WATER...AND TIME TAKING CARE OF HIM, IF HE'S JUST GOING TO DIE ANYWAY!
BESIDES, HE'S IN UNBEARABLE PAIN!
I MEAN WE SHOULD KILL HIM!
I MEAN...
WHAT !?

THE LIVER'S A STRONG ORGAN. BUT ONCE IT GOES BAD, IT DOESN'T HEAL EASILY. YOU CAN MAKE ARTIFICIAL HEARTS OR LUNGS, BUT YOU CAN'T MAKE AN ARTIFICIAL LIVER
WHAT!?
QUIET, OTOMO!
YANASE! IS THAT TRUE?!
IT'S SO SWOLLEN UP...IT'S SCARY...I'M NOT SURE EVEN A DOCTOR COULD SAVE HIM NOW...
SO WHAT ARE WE SUPPOSED TO DO? WAIT AROUND TILL HE DIES?
IT'S ALL RIGHT! IT'S OKAY!
OWWW! AGGGH! IT HURTS!
YOU HEARD WHAT YANASE SAID! NO MATTER HOW HARD WE WORK, WE CAN'T SAVE HIM!
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
IF WE DO THAT, WE'RE KILLING OURSELVES TOO!

I CAN'T STAND HEARING HIM! EVERYONE THINKS THE SAME THING!
WHY DO WE HAVE TO PUT UP WITH THIS?!


BAM
BAM
WHY! WHY!?

WAIT, EVERYBODY! LISTEN TO ME!
SLAM

OTOMO!
I CAN'T TAKE THIS ANYMORE! I'M LEAVING!

THAT'S CRAZY!

NGGGG-AGGHH!

HELP! HELP! GIVE ME SOME DRUGS OR SOMETHING!
OWW! OWW! OH MY GOD!

THIS IS WHAT'S CRAZY!

LISTEN TO HIM SCREAM! HOW LONG IS IT GOING TO TAKE HIM TO DIE IF WE DON'T DO SOMETHING?

AGGGH

WHERE ARE THEY?

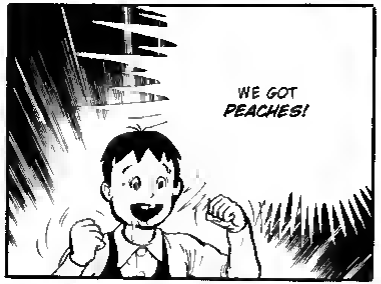
UNGGH...

GLRRFF!

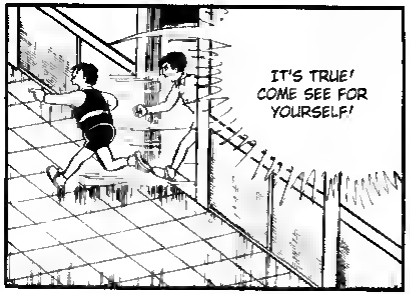
KOFF GLFF!

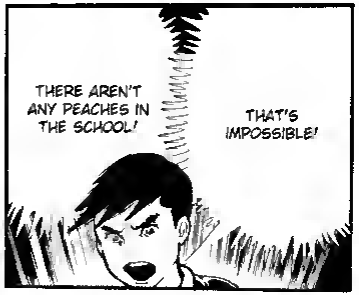
WH-WHAT IS IT?

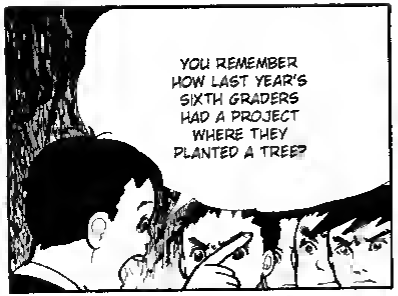
I GOT GREAT NEWS! COME HERE! EVERYONE'S WAITING!


WE GOT PEACHES!

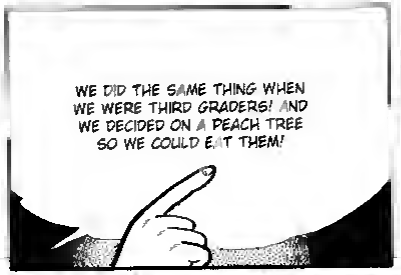
WHAT?!

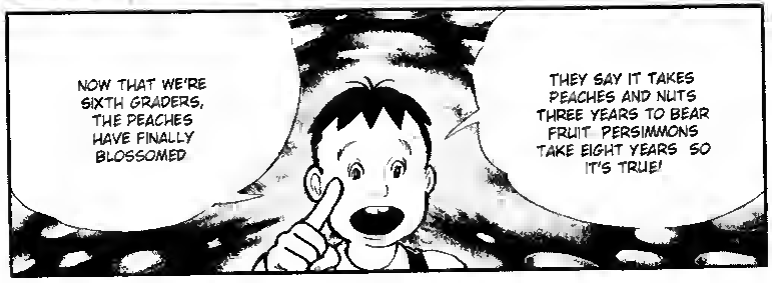

IT'S TRUE! COME SEE FOR YOURSELF!

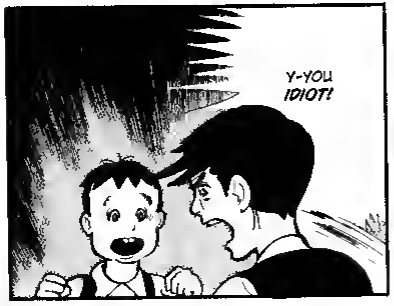

THERE AREN'T ANY PEACHES IN THE SCHOOL!
THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE!


YOU REMEMBER HOW LAST YEAR'S SIXTH GRADERS HAD A PROJECT WHERE THEY PLANTED A TREE?

YEAH... WHAT'S WRONG?


WE DID THE SAME THING WHEN WE WERE THIRD GRADERS! AND WE DECIDED ON A PEACH TREE SO WE COULD EAT THEM!

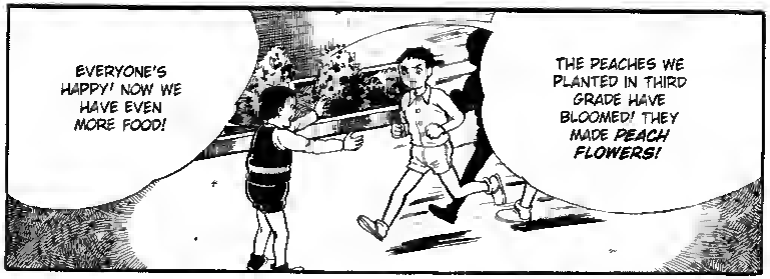

NOW THAT WE'RE SIXTH GRADERS, THE PEACHES HAVE FINALLY BLOSSOMED
THEY SAY IT TAKES PEACHES AND NUTS THREE YEARS TO BEAR FRUIT. PERSIMMONS TAKE EIGHT YEARS. SO IT'S TRUE!

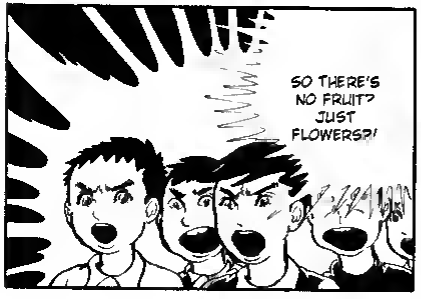

Y-YOU IDIOT!

SO WHEN THEY BEAR FRUIT, WE CAN EAT THEM!

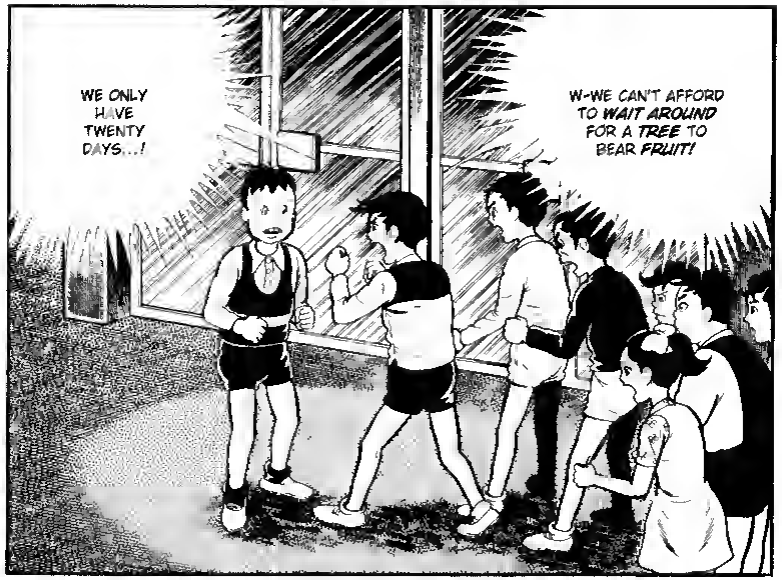
SEE! EVERYONE'S LOOKING AT THEM!

OVER HERE!
WHERE ARE THE PEACHES!?


EVERYONE'S HAPPY! NOW WE HAVE EVEN MORE FOOD!
THE PEACHES WE PLANTED IN THIRD GRADE HAVE BLOOMED! THEY MADE PEACH FLOWERS!

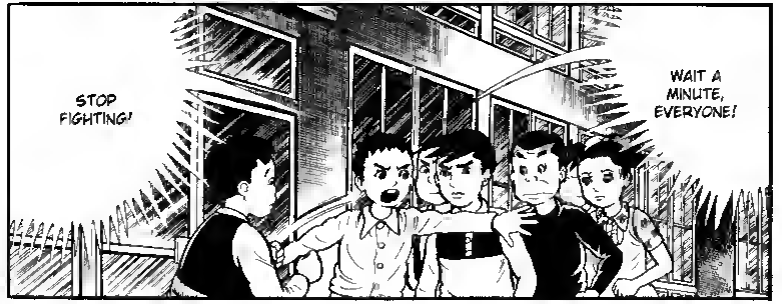

SO THERE'S NO FRUIT? JUST FLOWERS?!

WHAT!?


WE ONLY HAVE TWENTY DAYS...!
W-WE CAN'T AFFORD TO WAIT AROUND FOR A TREE TO BEAR FRUIT!

B-BUT ...!
BE QUIET! DON'T TELL HIM!

SHH, OTOMO!


STOP FIGHTING!
WAIT A MINUTE, EVERYONE!

I JUST THOUGHT OF SOMETHING AWFUL!

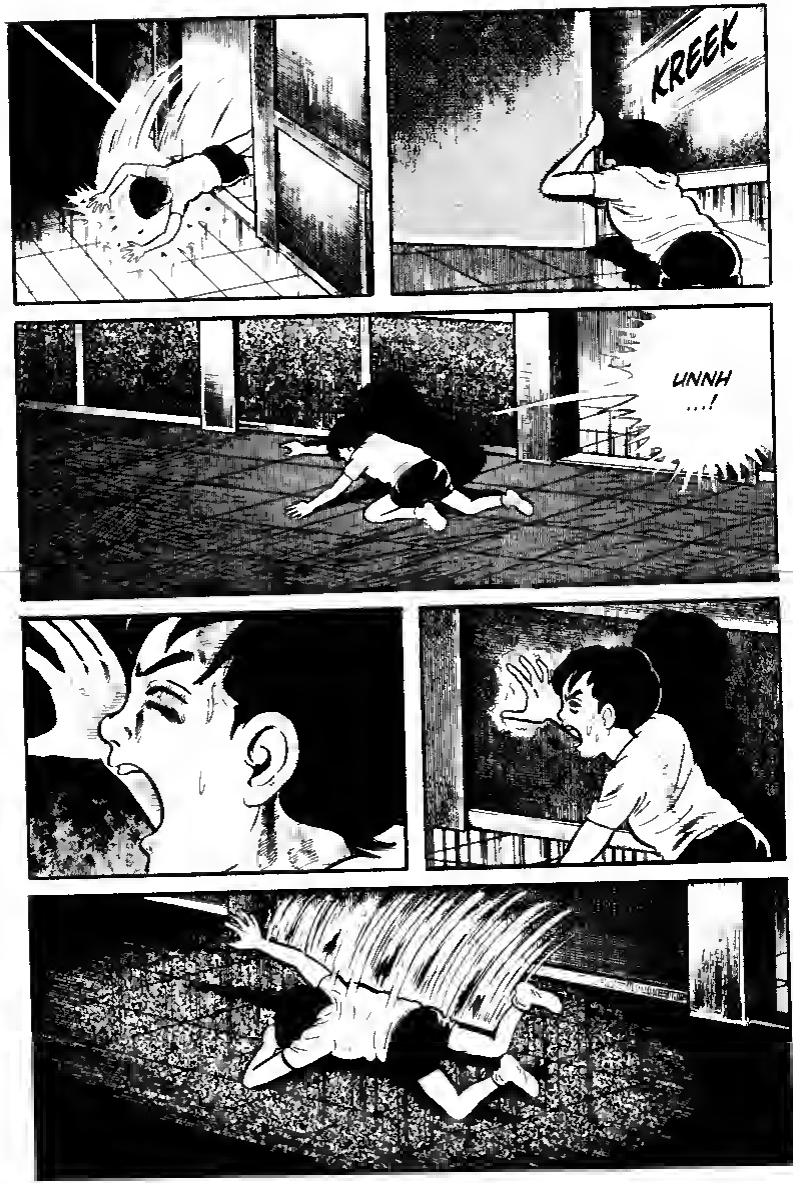
THIS IS REALLY BAD, BUT..

WH-WHAT IS IT!?

OUR PLANTS MIGHT NOT BEAR ANY FRUIT AT ALL!

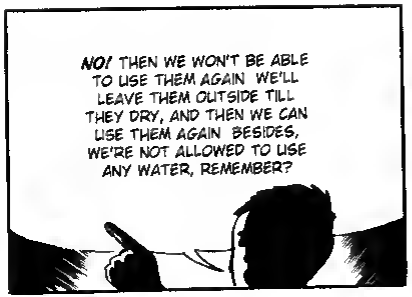
WHAT? WHY?!

GGH...
GGH...
UNNGH
...!
HHAM

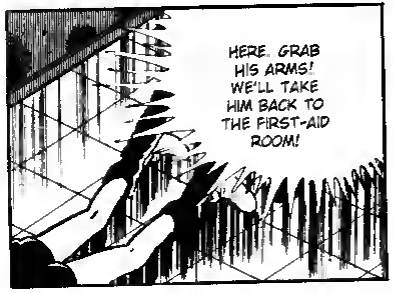

KREEK
UNNH
...!

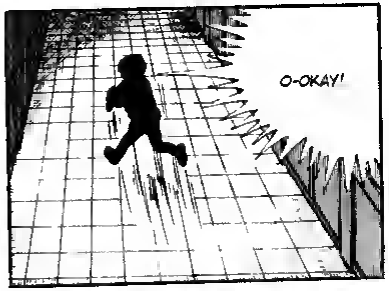
HERE! I'VE GOT ONE!
GET A HANDKERCHIEF!
HE'S COUGHING UP BLOOD!
YOU WANT TO GO TO THE BATHROOM?
B-BATH-ROOM...
HASHIMOTO! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT!?
UCK! HE COULDN'T HOLD IT IN!
LOOK, HE'S GOT DIARRHEA!
WE HAVE TO CLEAN HIM UP!
WH-WHAT DO WE DO!?

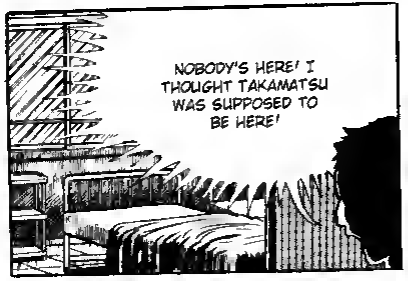
TMM
TMM
AGGH...
HEY!
I-IT'S HASHIMOTO! WHY'D HE GET OUT OF BED?
OWW...


NO! THEN WE WON'T BE ABLE TO USE THEM AGAIN. WE'LL LEAVE THEM OUTSIDE TILL THEY DRY, AND THEN WE CAN USE THEM AGAIN. BESIDES, WE'RE NOT ALLOWED TO USE ANY WATER, REMEMBER?

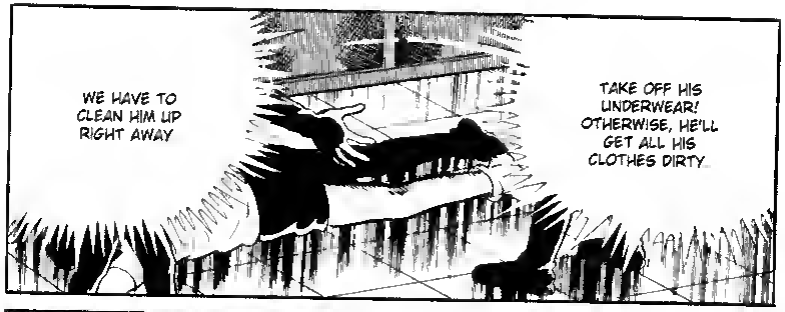
I'LL THROW IT ALL INTO THE TOILET


HERE. GRAB HIS ARMS! WE'LL TAKE HIM BACK TO THE FIRST-AID ROOM!

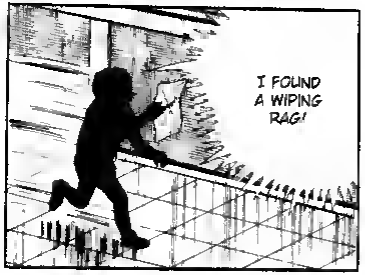

O-OKAY!

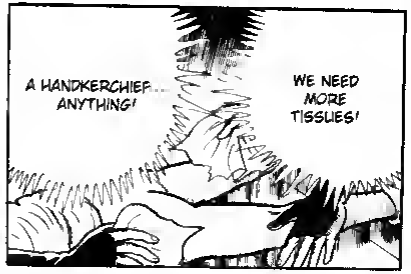

NOBODY'S HERE! I THOUGHT TAKAMATSU WAS SUPPOSED TO BE HERE!

COME ON!


WE HAVE TO CLEAN HIM UP RIGHT AWAY
TAKE OFF HIS UNDERWEAR! OTHERWISE, HE'LL GET ALL HIS CLOTHES DIRTY.

ALL RIGHT!
I KNOW IT'S GROSS BUT WE GOTTA DO IT! COME ON!


I FOUND A WIPING RAG!


A HANDKERCHIEF... ANYTHING!
WE NEED MORE TISSUES!

DON'T BE A WIMP!

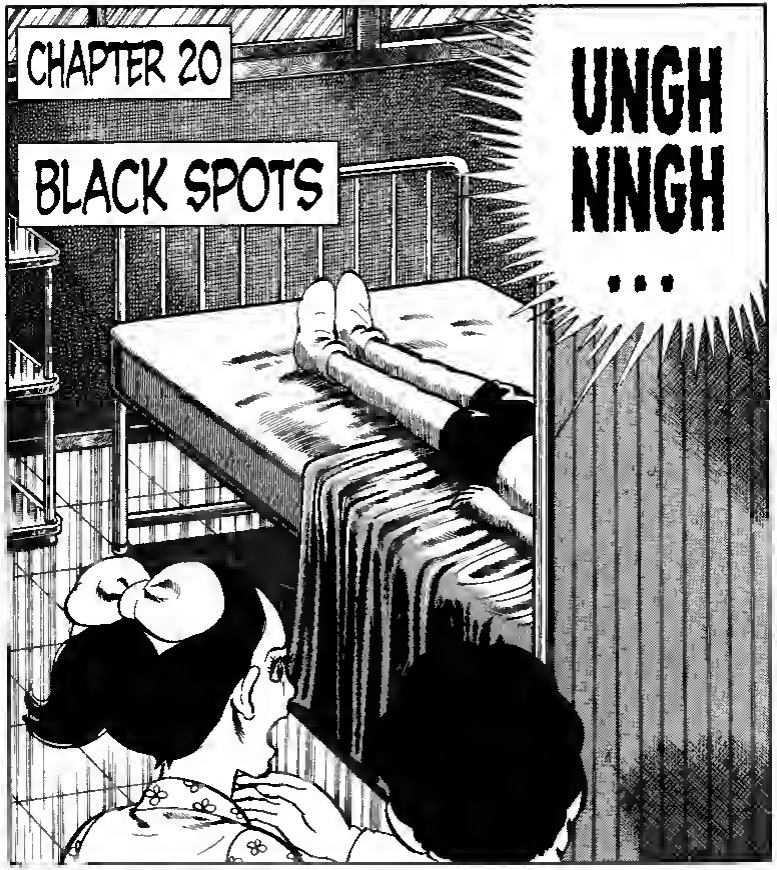
EWW! I GOT SOME ON MY HAND!

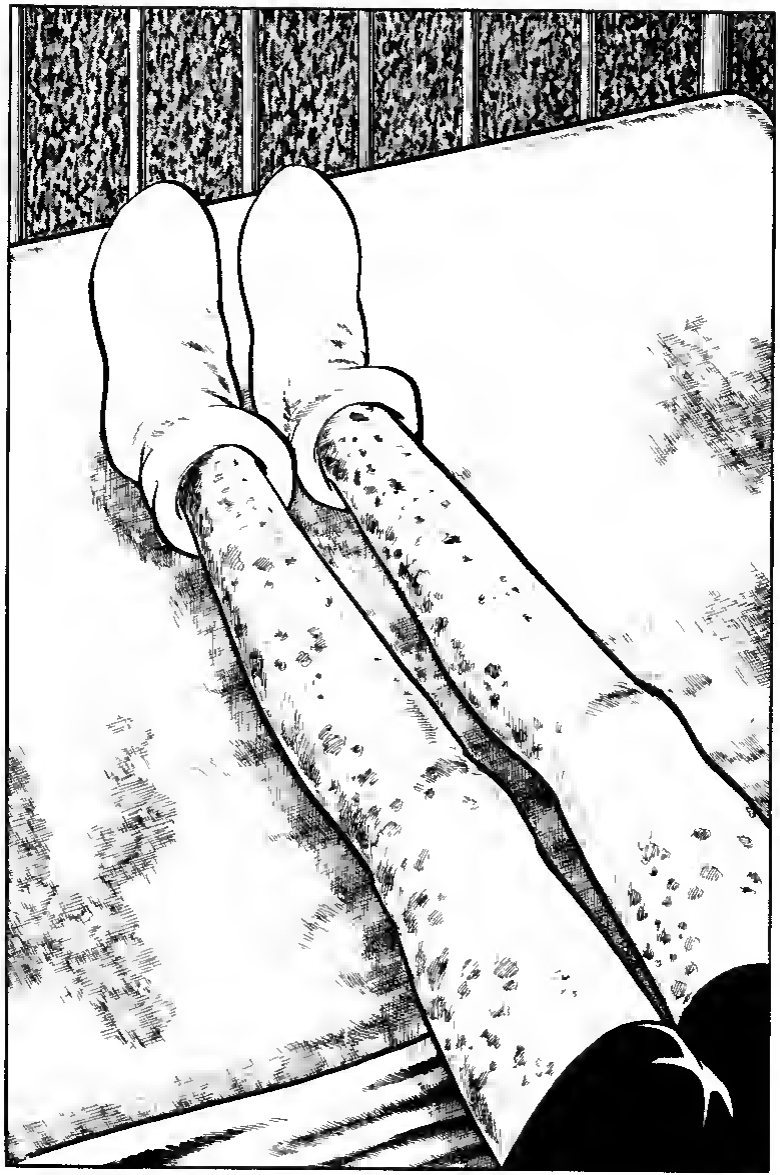
WE'LL SEND TAKAMATSU HERE WHEN WE FIND HIM!
IT'S ALL RIGHT, WE WON'T TELL ANYBODY YOU CRAPPED YOUR PANTS.
AGGGHH!
IT HURTS!
SLAM
HASHIMOTO'S SCREAMING!
AGGHH
HE'S SO LOUD! AT LEAST EVERYONE'S OVER BY THE PEACH TREE. MAYBE THEY HAVEN'T HEARD HIM.

REMEMBER SCIENCE CLASS?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, THE TREE WON'T BEAR FRUIT?
TAKAMATSU!
IN ORDER FOR FLOWERING PLANTS TO BEAR FRUIT, THE POLLEN HAS TO BE TRANSFERRED FROM THE STAMEN TO THE PISTIL!
WELL, DO YOU REMEMBER HOW THAT HAPPENS?
Y-YEAH, SO .?
AND THERE'S NO WIND HERE AT ALL!
BUT THERE AREN'T ANY INSECTS LIKE THAT HERE!
S-SURE! BEES AND BUTTERFLIES! SOMETIMES THE WIND!

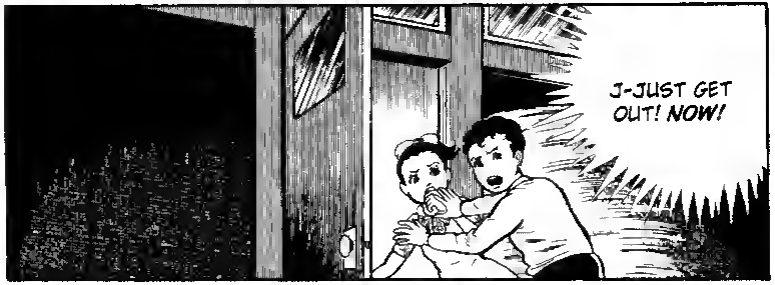
OOOH..
KREEK
POOR HASHIMOTO
GASP!
HASHIMOTO! WE'RE BACK!
URGGH..
DON'T GO ANY CLOSER!
STOP!

NOT JUST THE PEACH TREES THE CUCUMBERS, TOMATOES, MORNING GLORIES AND VIOLETS!
THE PLANTS WON'T BEAR FRUIT UNLESS WE DO THAT PROCESS ARTIFICIALLY!
THEN WE'LL HAVE TO MOVE THE POLLEN OURSELVES.
TH-THAT'S AWFUL!
THEY'LL ALL DIE IF WE LEAVE THEM ALONE!
WE HAVE TO DO OUR BEST TO SURVIVE!
STOP IT! WE CAN'T THINK ABOUT DYING! WE HAVE TO DO WHATEVER WE CAN TO LIVE!
IT WON'T MATTER! WE ONLY HAVE TWENTY DAYS..!
GOOD NOW WE'LL WORK ON THE PLANTS
OKAY!
YANASE! YOU AND SAK! GO TAKE CARE OF HASHIMOTO!


CHAPTER 20
BLACK SPOTS
UNGH
NNGH
...



WHAT ARE THOSE BLACK SPOTS!?
HUH?!


J-JUST GET OUT! NOW!

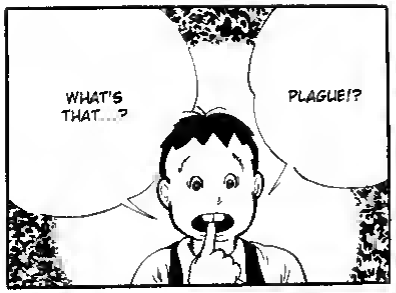
WHAT!?
I-I WAS WRONG! I MISDIAGNOSED HIM!

IT MIGHT BE THE PLAGUE!

SLAM

DON'T LET THEM GET CLOSE TO ANYONE ELSE IN THE SCHOOL!
WE HAVE TO STOP TAKAMATSU AND THE OTHERS!
LIKE US!
IF THEY'RE INFECTED IT'LL SPREAD FURTHER!
TO TAKE CARE OF THE PEACH FLOWERS !
THEY MIGHT ALREADY HAVE GONE...
SHO!

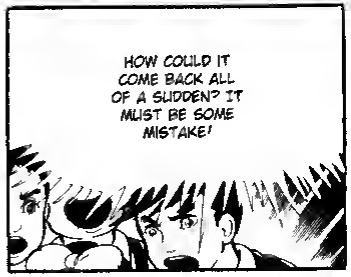
THE PLAGUE !?
THE BLACK PLAGUE?!
YOU MEAN THAT ANCIENT DISEASE THAT KILLED OFF HALF THE POPULATION OF EUROPE...?!
I THOUGHT HIS LIVER WAS SWOLLEN, BUT IT MIGHT HAVE BEEN HIS GLANDS!
LOOK AT THOSE DARK SPOTS ON HIS SKIN!
OTHER PEOPLE?! LIKE WHO?!
IT MIGHT HAVE ALREADY SPREAD TO OTHER PEOPLE!


WHAT'S THAT...?
PLAGUE!?

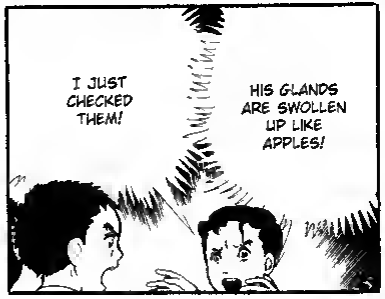
THE PLAGUE ?!

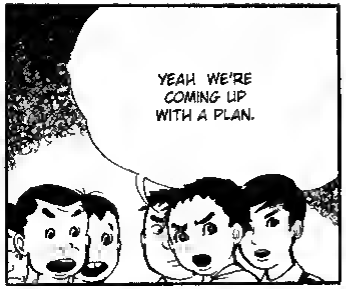
THE PLAGUE WAS WIPED OUT IN JAPAN A LONG TIME AGO!
TH-THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE! MY OLDER BROTHER IS IN COLLEGE, AND HE TOLD ME ALL ABOUT IT!

YANASE!
IT'S NO MISTAKE!


HOW COULD IT COME BACK ALL OF A SUDDEN? IT MUST BE SOME MISTAKE!

IT'LL KILL US BEFORE WE EVEN STARVE TO DEATH!


I JUST CHECKED THEM!
HIS GLANDS ARE SWOLLEN UP LIKE APPLES!

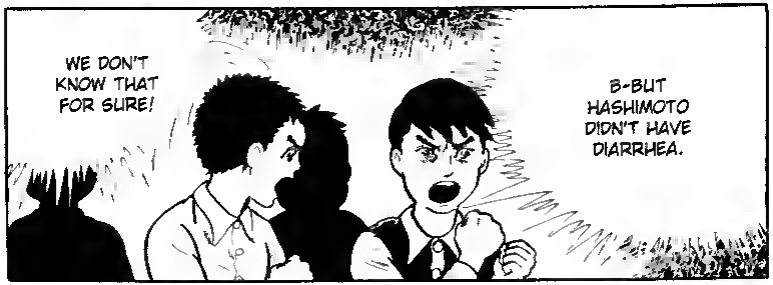

YEAH WE'RE COMING UP WITH A PLAN.

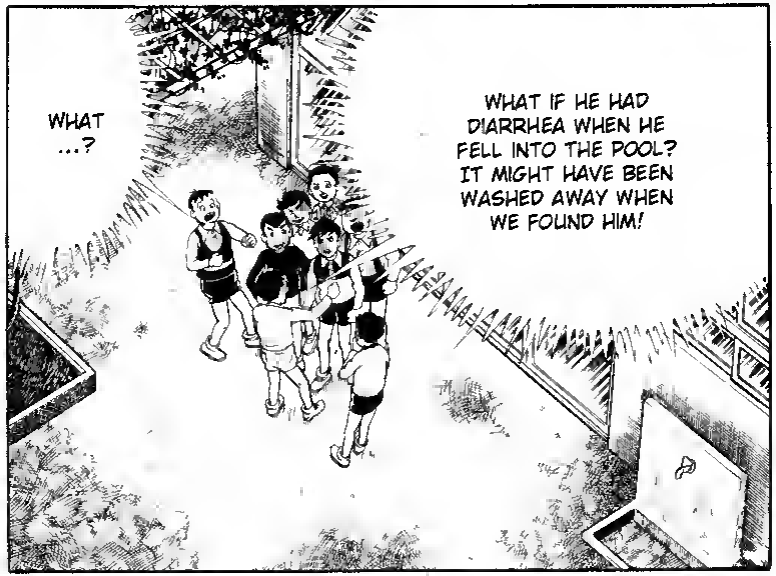
OH GOOD, YOU'RE STILL HERE!

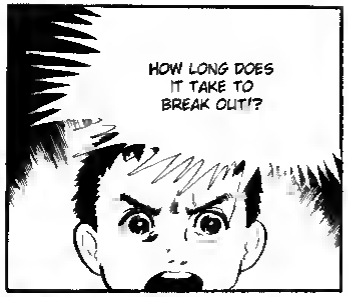
OH, THANK GOD!

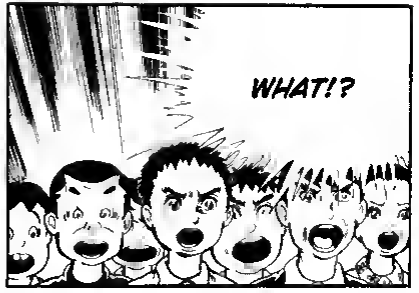
WH-WHAT IS IT, SAKI!?

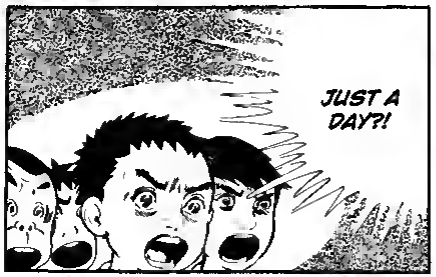
SPOTS!? WHAT DO YOU MEAN!?
H-HE HAD SPOTS .


WE DON'T KNOW THAT FOR SURE!
B-BUT HASHIMOTO DIDN'T HAVE DIARRHEA.

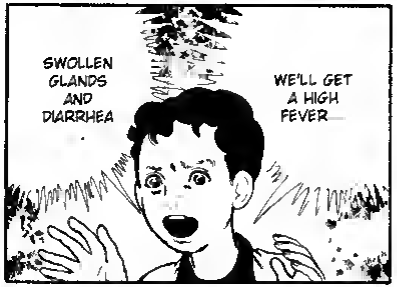

WHAT ...?
WHAT IF HE HAD DIARRHEA WHEN HE FELL INTO THE POOL? IT MIGHT HAVE BEEN WASHED AWAY WHEN WE FOUND HIM!


HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE TO BREAK OUT!?

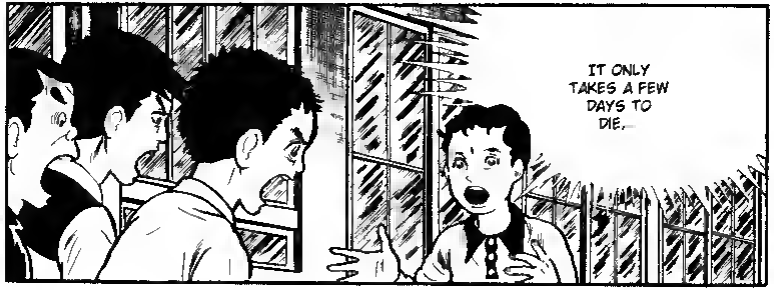

WHAT!?

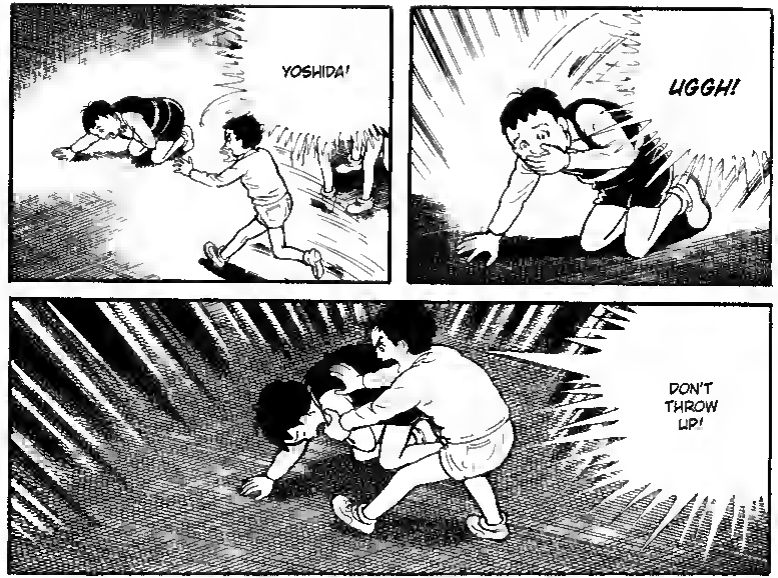

JUST A DAY?!

A DAY AFTER YOU'RE INFECTED!

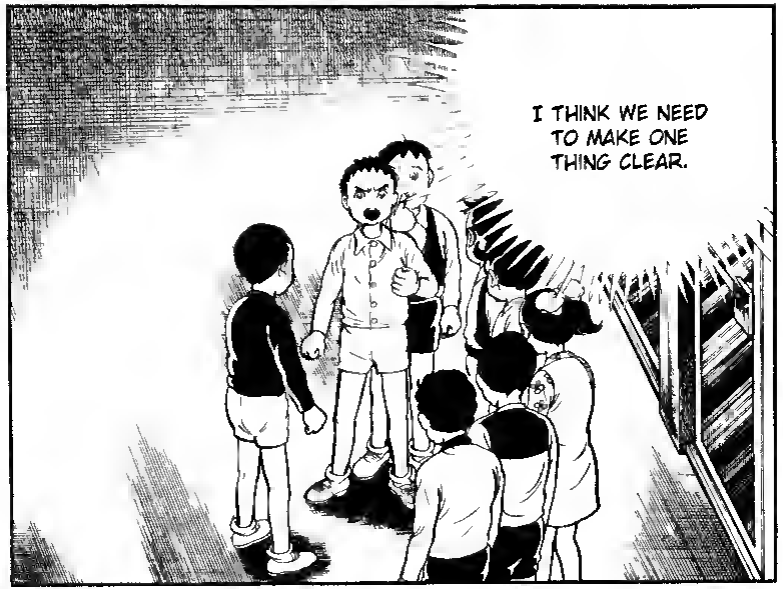

SWOLLEN GLANDS AND DIARRHEA
WE'LL GET A HIGH FEVER...

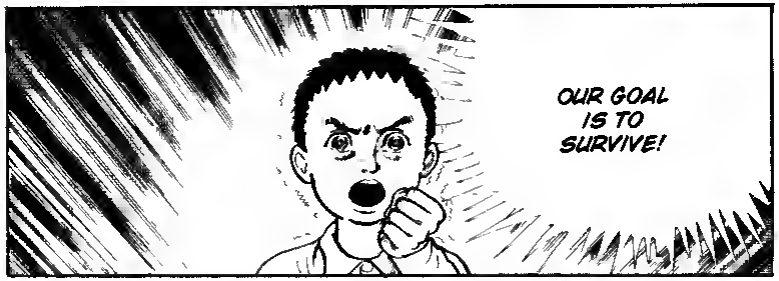
IN ONE DAY WE'LL PROBABLY ALL BE AS SICK AS HASHIMOTO!


IT ONLY TAKES A FEW DAYS TO DIE.

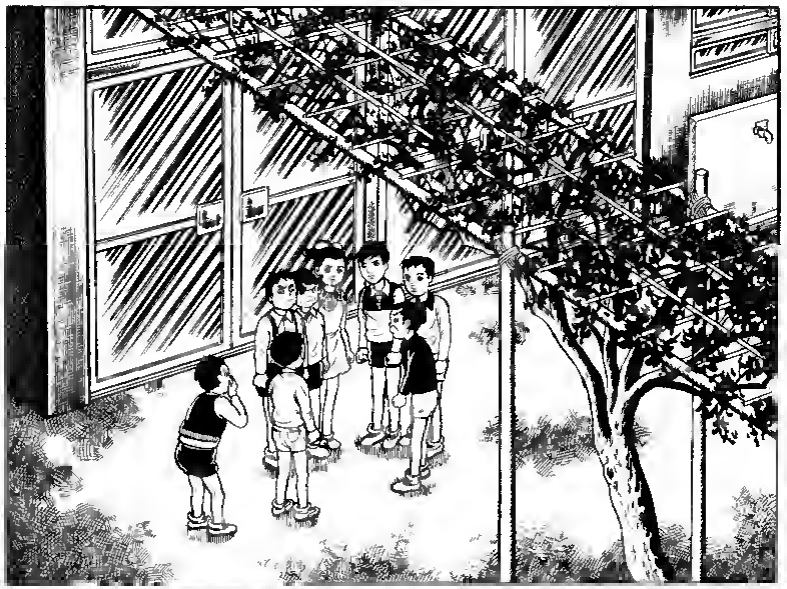

YOSHIDA!
UGGH!
DON'T THROW UP!
YOU CAN'T AFFORD TO WASTE YOUR FOOD!
HOLD IT DOWN!
LISTEN UP, EVERYONE!

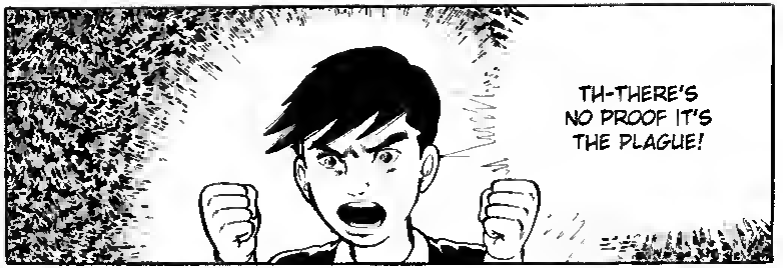
HASHIMOTO MIGHT HAVE CONTAMINATED THE WATER WHEN HE FELL INTO THE POOL!
TAKAMATSU'S RIGHT! NOT ONLY THAT, ANYONE WHO'S BEEN NEAR HASHIMOTO MIGHT BE INFECTED!
ARE YOU SAYING WE CAN'T DRINK THE WATER EITHER?!
THAT'S RIGHT... US!


I THINK WE NEED TO MAKE ONE THING CLEAR.


OUR GOAL IS TO SURVIVE!

...THERE'S NO CHANCE...
EVEN IF...




TH-THERE'S NO PROOF IT'S THE PLAGUE!

WE HAVE TO ASSUME WE'RE INFECTED!
BUT IF WE DON'T TAKE PRECAUTIONS, BY THEN IT'LL BE TOO LATE!

H-HOLD ON, OTOMO! CALM DOWN! IN A DAY WE'LL KNOW FOR SURE!

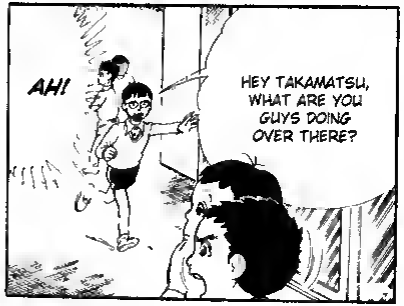
YOU KNOW WHAT I'M GETTING AT!

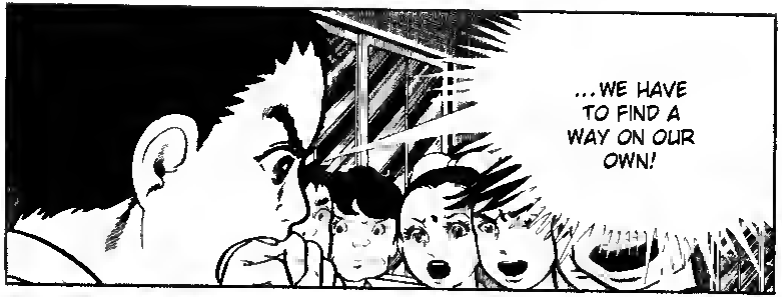
WE HAVE TO COME UP WITH OUR OWN SOLUTIONS!

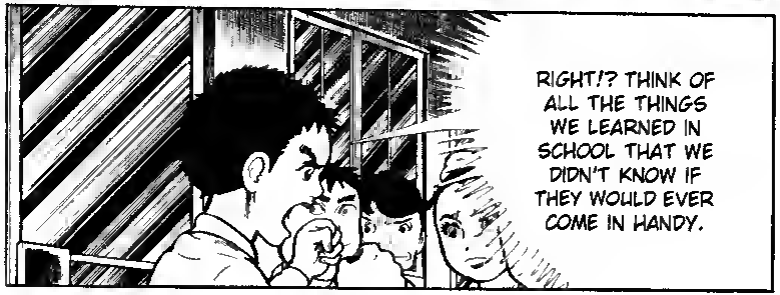
WE HAVE TO SURVIVE NO MATTER WHAT!

NO ONE'S GOING TO HELP US! WE HAVE TO SURVIVE ON OUR OWN!
WE CAN'T JUST WAIT AROUND FOR HELP!

DON'T COME HERE! STAY BACK!


AH!
HEY TAKAMATSU, WHAT ARE YOU GUYS DOING OVER THERE?


...WE HAVE TO FIND A WAY ON OUR OWN!


RIGHT!? THINK OF ALL THE THINGS WE LEARNED IN SCHOOL THAT WE DIDN'T KNOW IF THEY WOULD EVER COME IN HANDY.

...BUT TO STAY ALIVE!
WE HAVE TO USE WHAT WE LEARNED... NOT FOR BETTER GRADES...

THE PEACH FLOWERS, FOR INSTANCE. IT WAS JUST SOMETHING WE STUDIED, BUT IT TURNED OUT TO BE USEFUL...

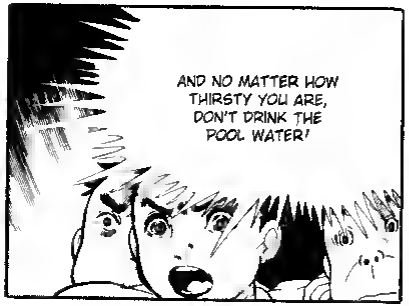
I SAID NOT TO COME HERE!
HUH? WHY?
WHAT!?
DON'T COME NEAR US!
TUNK
WAH!
THINK ABOUT IT! WE DON'T WANT TO INFECT THE OTHERS!
LEAVE?! WHY?
WE HAVE TO LEAVE THE SCHOOL!
I-I DIDN'T GO NEAR THE SICK GUY! I JUST WANTED TO TELL YOU ABOUT THE PEACH FLOWERS!
B-BUT WHY?!
WHAT!?
YOU HAVE TO COME WITH US, YOSHIDA!

NO WAY!
HUH?!
YES, BUT WE MIGHT HAVE INFECTED YOU ALREADY!
L-LET GO OF ME!
I'M GOING BACK WITH THE OTHERS!
I-I CAN'T BE INFECTED!
HELP ME, EVERYBODY!
HELP ME!
WHAT'S GOING ON, TAKAMATSU?
HEY, IT'S YOSHIDA!
WHAT'S GOING ON?

THE PLAGUE !?

YOU HAVE TO GO TO ANOTHER BUILDING! AND DON'T GO NEAR THE FIRST-AID ROOM!

THAT'S RIGHT! WE MIGHT BE INFECTED WITH THE BUBONIC PLAGUE!

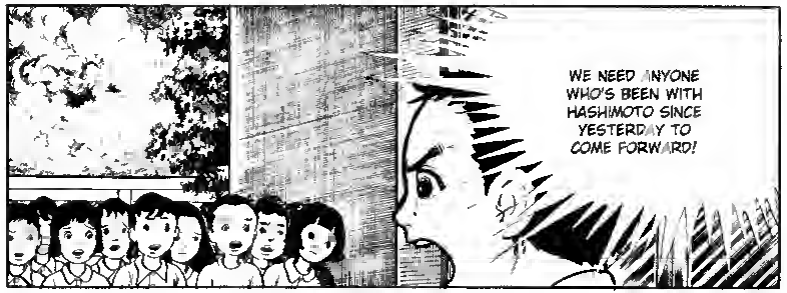

AND NO MATTER HOW THIRSTY YOU ARE, DON'T DRINK THE POOL WATER!

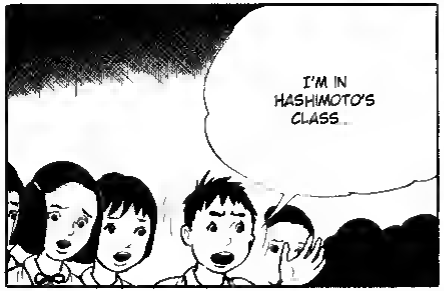
DON'T GO IN THE FIRST-AID ROOM EITHER!

DON'T COME NEAR US! IT'S DANGEROUS!

WE MIGHT BE INFECTED...

...WITH THE PLAGUE!


WE NEED ANYONE WHO'S BEEN WITH HASHIMOTO SINCE YESTERDAY TO COME FORWARD!

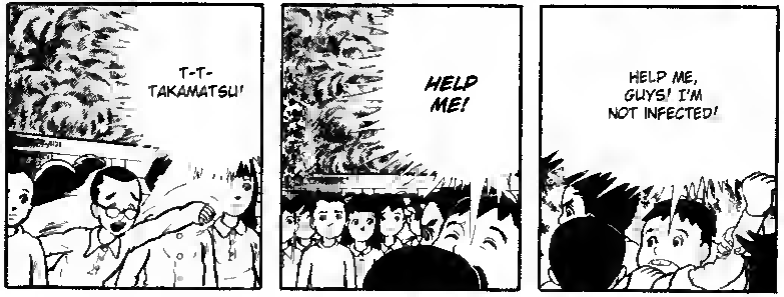

I'M IN HASHIMOTO'S CLASS..

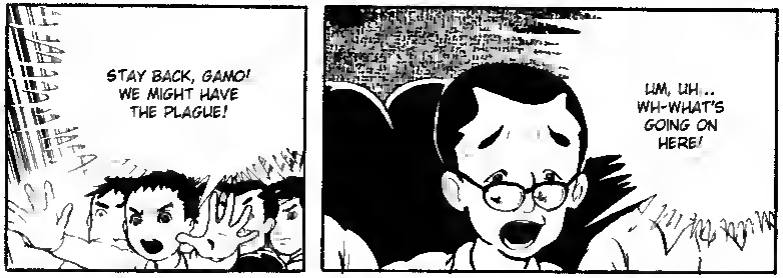
HE'S ALWAYS QUIET. HE'S KEPT TO HIMSELF SINCE WE CAME HERE!

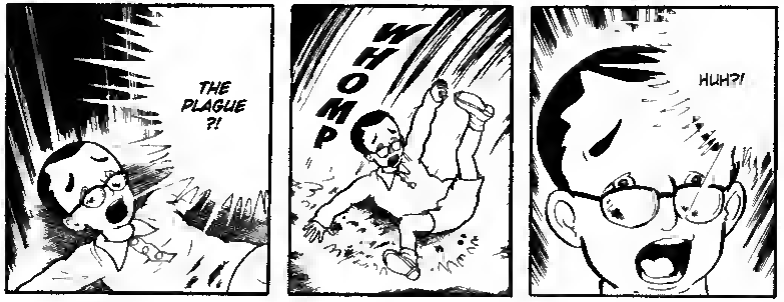
HE DOESN'T HAVE MANY FRIENDS. HE USUALLY SPENDS MOST OF HIS TIME AT THE PLAYGROUND ALONE.

SO YOU'RE SAYING NO ONE'S TALKED TO HASHIMOTO?

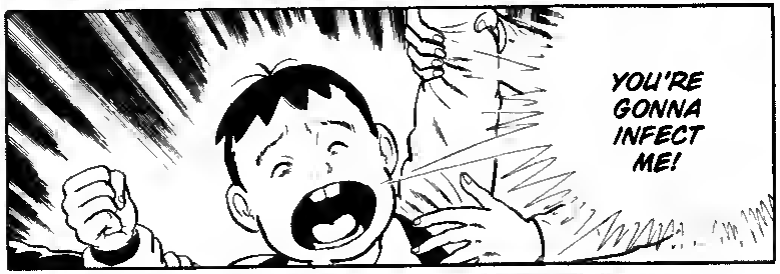
DON'T LIE! IF YOU DO, WE'RE ALL DOOMED!
YES! WE'RE SURE!
YOU'RE ABSOLUTELY SURE?!

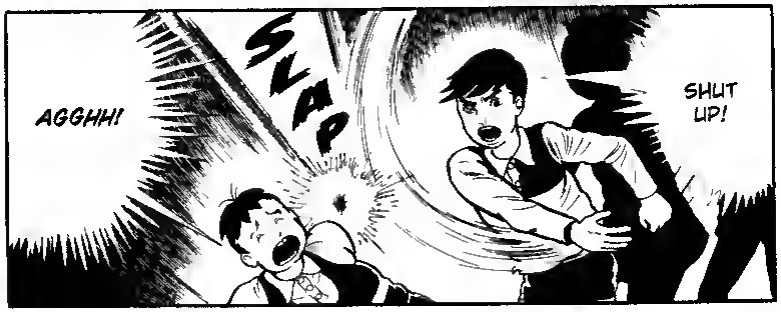

T-T-TAKAMATSU!
HELP ME!
HELP ME, GUYS! I'M NOT INFECTED!

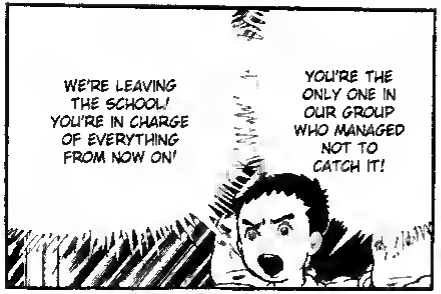

STAY BACK, GAMO! WE MIGHT HAVE THE PLAGUE!
UM, UH... WH-WHAT'S GOING ON HERE!

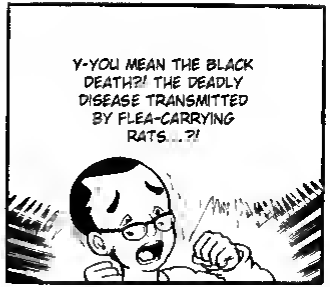

THE PLAGUE ?!
KHOMP
HUH?!

I WANNA GO BACK!
I DON'T HAVE THE PLAGUE!


YOU'RE GONNA INFECT ME!

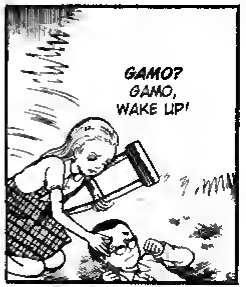

AGGHH!
SNAP
SHUT UP!

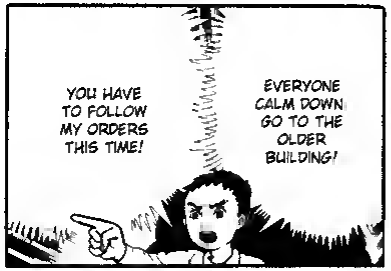

WE'RE LEAVING THE SCHOOL! YOU'RE IN CHARGE OF EVERYTHING FROM NOW ON!
YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE IN OUR GROUP WHO MANAGED NOT TO CATCH IT!

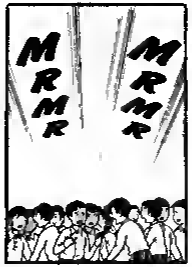

Y-YOU MEAN THE BLACK DEATH?! THE DEADLY DISEASE TRANSMITTED BY FLEA-CARRYING RATS...?!

PLEASE TAKE CARE OF YU! HE'S SO LITTLE!

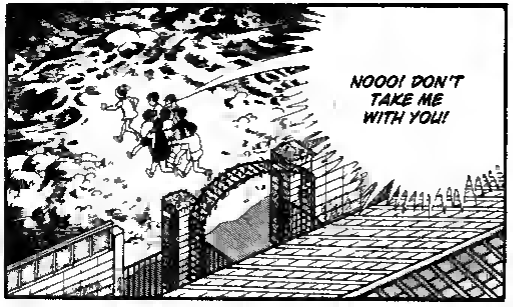
NISHI!


GAMO? GAMO, WAKE UP!


YOU HAVE TO FOLLOW MY ORDERS THIS TIME!
EVERYONE CALM DOWN GO TO THE OLDER BUILDING!

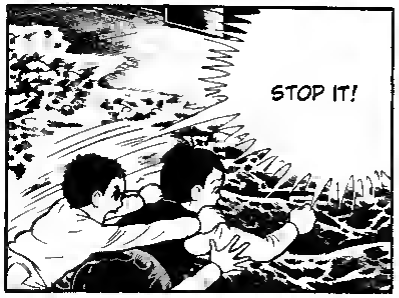

MRMR
MRMR

A-ALL RIGHT!

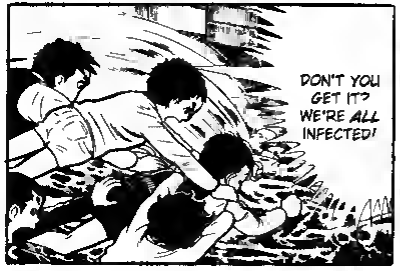

NOOO! DON'T TAKE ME WITH YOU!!

WE'RE LEAVING NOW! GOODBYE!

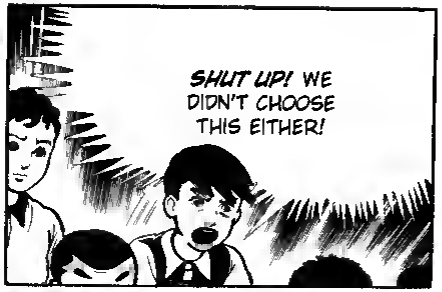
YOU'RE DRAGGING ME DOWN WITH YOU!

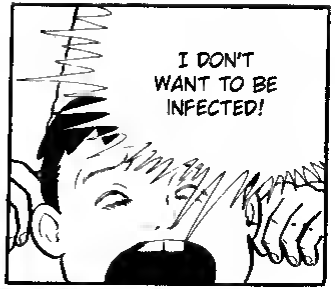

STOP IT!

HEY!
I'M GOING BACK!


DON'T YOU GET IT? WE'RE ALL INFECTED!

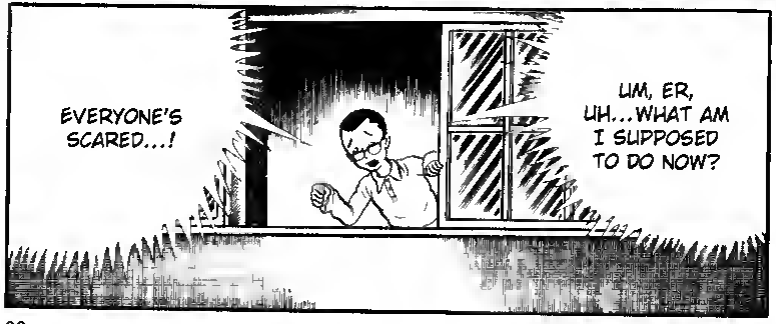
TIE HIM UP WITH HIS SOCKS!
LET ME GO!


SHUT UP! WE DIDN'T CHOOSE THIS EITHER!


I DON'T WANT TO BE INFECTED!

T-T-TAKAMATSU!

WAAH!


EVERYONE'S SCARED...!
UM, ER, UH...WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO NOW?

THE SIXTH GRADERS HAVE TO HOLD A NEW ELECTION!
GAMO!
AND I NEED YOU TO GET SOME GASOLINE!
THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY TO STOP THE PLAGUE! IT HAS TO BE BURNED OUT!
GUH... GUH... GASOLINE ?!
IF WE HAVE A FEVER TOMORROW THEN IT MEANS WE'RE INFECTED!
B-BURNED OUT? YOU MEAN...?
WAIT! TAKAMATSU!
UHH... OKAY...!
...TO BURN US!?
Y-YOU MEAN THE GASOLINE'S...
NO! THERE'S GOT TO BE ANOTHER WAY!
CALM DOWN! THINK ABOUT IT!
I-I THINK IT'S CALLED STREPTOMYCIN!
YANASE, WHAT CURES THE PLAGUE? THERE'S GOT TO BE SOMETHING! THIS ISN'T THE MIDDLE AGES!

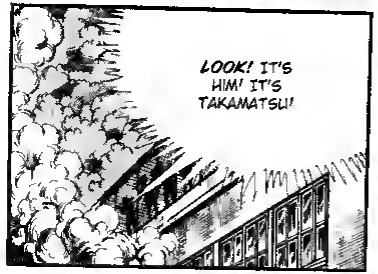
IF ONLY WE HAD SOME!
IF WE HAD SOME STREPTOMYCIN, WE'D BY FINE!
SOB... SOB..'
I-I DON'T FEEL SICK AT ALL. ARE YOU SURE WE'RE INFECTED!?
WE WON'T KNOW UNTIL TOMORROW!
I-I TOLD YOU!
BEFORE THAT WE HAVE TO GO GET HASHIMOTO AND BURN DOWN THE FIRST-AID ROOM!
THEN WE'LL REALLY BE INFECTED!
Y-YOU WANT US TO GET HASHIMOTO?!
ONCE HE COMES OUT, THERE WON'T BE ANYONE INFECTED LEFT INSIDE THE SCHOOL!
NO! HASHIMOTO MIGHT STILL BE ABLE TO WALK WE HAVE TO CALL HIM OUT HERE!
...WAIT. WHAT'S THAT SMOKE...?

IT'S COMING FROM THE FIRST-AID ROOM! LET'S GO!
CHAPTER 21
THE PLAGUE TERROR
EEYAA
IT'S HASHIMOTO!
HELP ME--!!

AGGHH!
OH NO!
KRAH
SIIN
KRAK! KRAK!
H-HELP ...!

SHRIEK!
AGGH!

TAKAMATSU!
KOFF...!
KOFF...!


LOOK! IT'S
HIM! IT'S
TAKAMATSU!

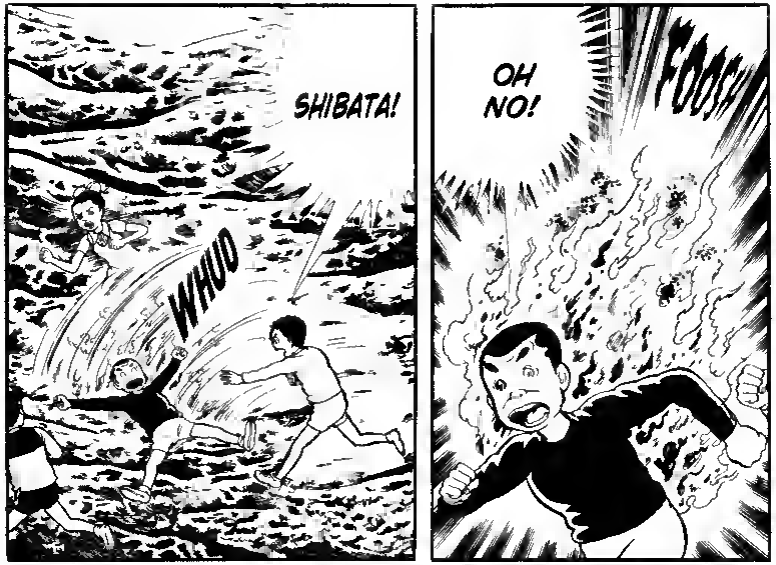
WE HAVE
TO BURN
HIM TOO!

THERE
HE IS!
AH!

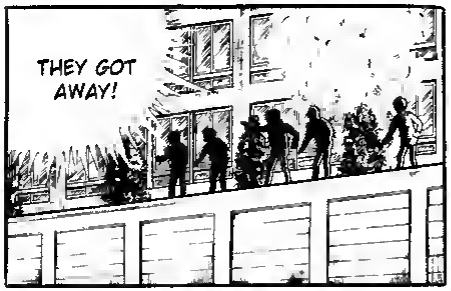
SPLASH

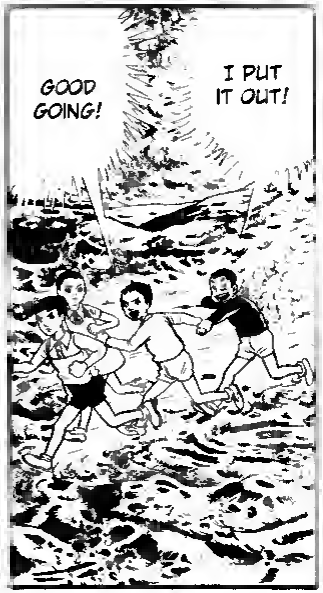
TAKAMATSU!

FOOM

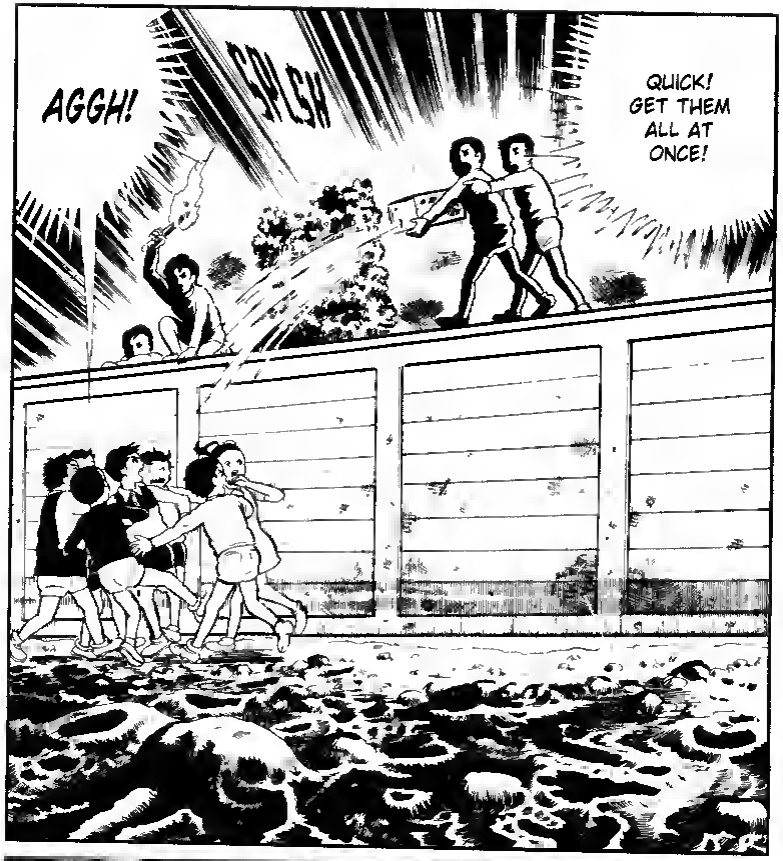

SHIBATA!
WHUD

OH NO!
FOOSH

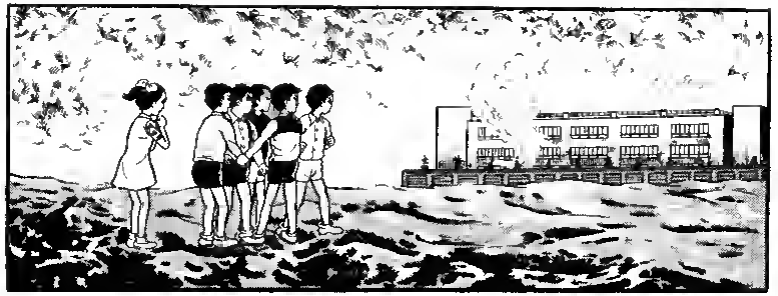

THEY GOT AWAY!

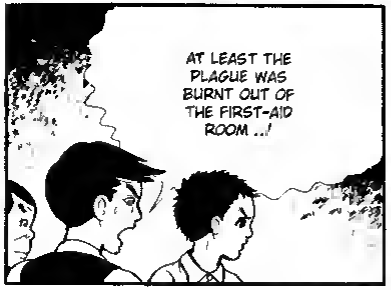

GOOD GOING!
I PUT IT OUT!

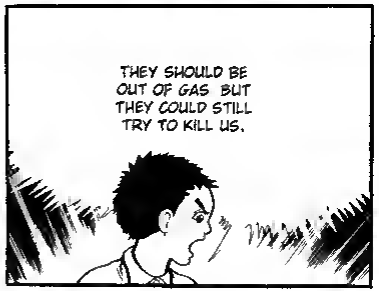
DID GAMO TELL THEM TO BURN US?!
THIS IS INSANE!

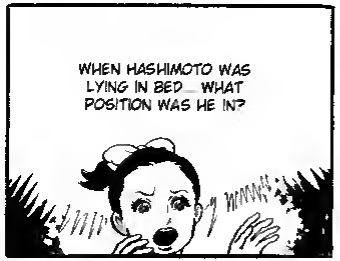

AGGH!
CRUCH
QUICK! GET THEM ALL AT ONCE!

RUN!!



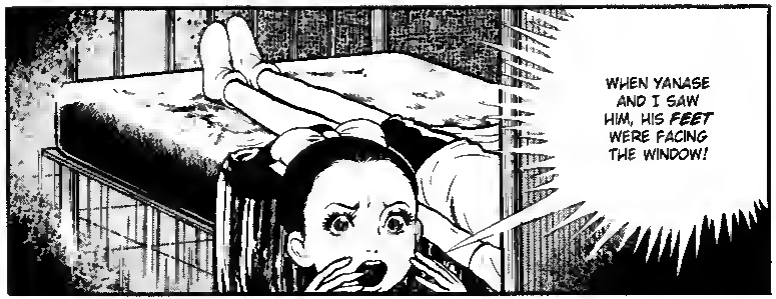

AT LEAST THE PLAGUE WAS BURNT OUT OF THE FIRST-AID ROOM ..!


THEY SHOULD BE OUT OF GAS BUT THEY COULD STILL TRY TO KILL US.


WHEN HASHIMOTO WAS LYING IN BED... WHAT POSITION WAS HE IN?

H-HOLD ON!

HIS HEAD WAS BY THE WINDOW.


WHEN YANASE AND I SAW HIM, HIS *FEET* WERE FACING THE WINDOW!

NO! HE WAS TOO SICK!

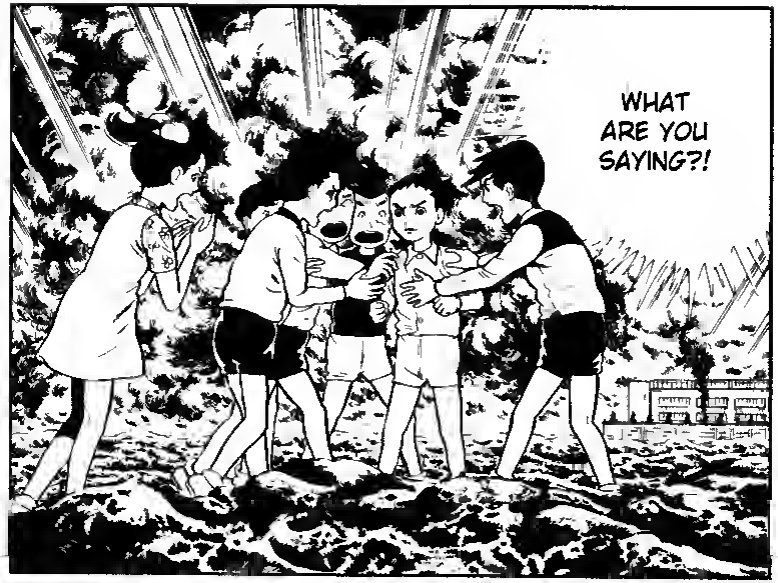
DID HE GET UP ON HIS OWN?

WH-WHAT!?

SOMEONE ELSE MUST HAVE COME INTO CONTACT WITH HIM!

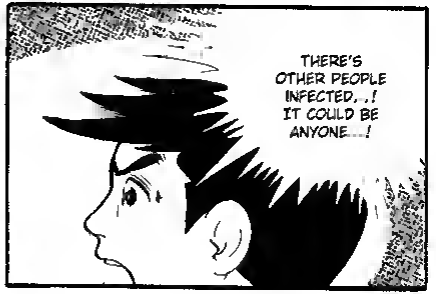
HEY, TAKE A LOOK OVER HERE! THERE'S SOME DIRTY UNDERWEAR LYING AROUND!

HASHIMOTO


WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?!

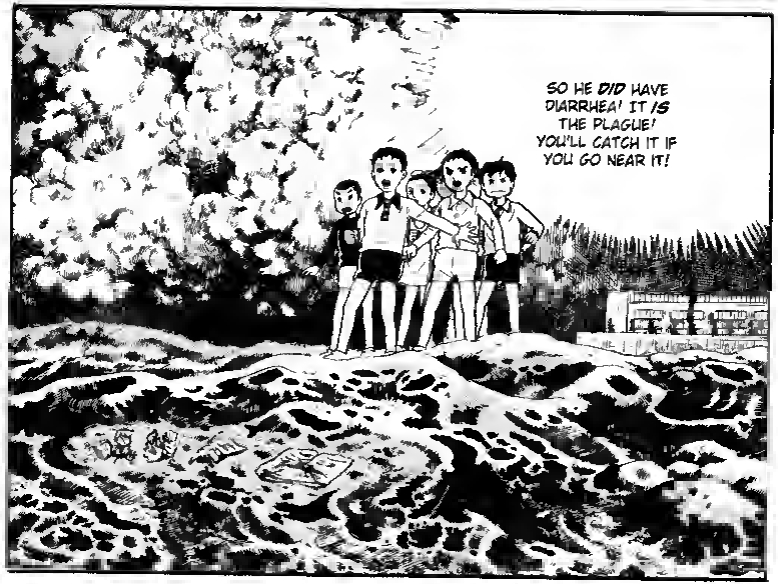
THEN THE WHOLE SCHOOL'S CONTAMINATED!

OH MY GOD! WHAT ABOUT YU..?!


THERE'S OTHER PEOPLE INFECTED..! IT COULD BE ANYONE...!

IT'S HASHIMOTO'S!
OH!

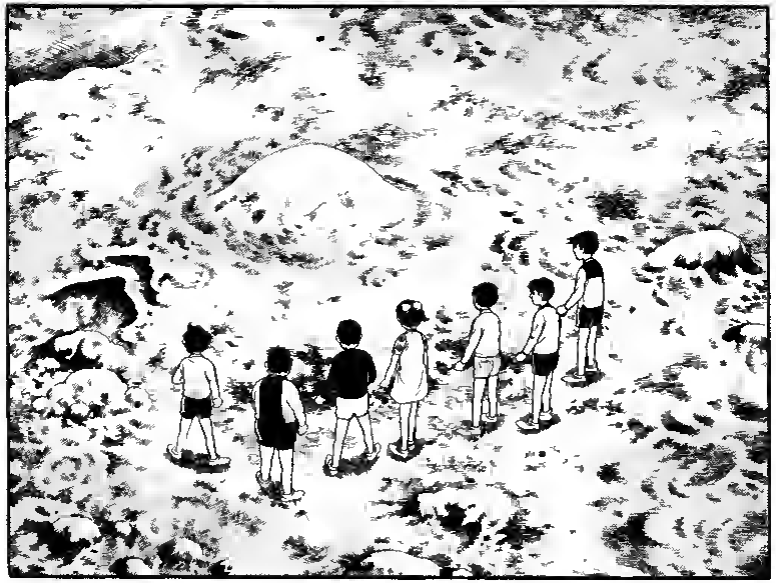
DON'T GO NEAR IT!
WAIT, TAKAMATSU!


SO HE DID HAVE DIARRHEA! IT IS THE PLAGUE! YOU'LL CATCH IT IF YOU GO NEAR IT!

DIG
DIG

GOOD IDEA!
WE HAVE TO BURY IT!

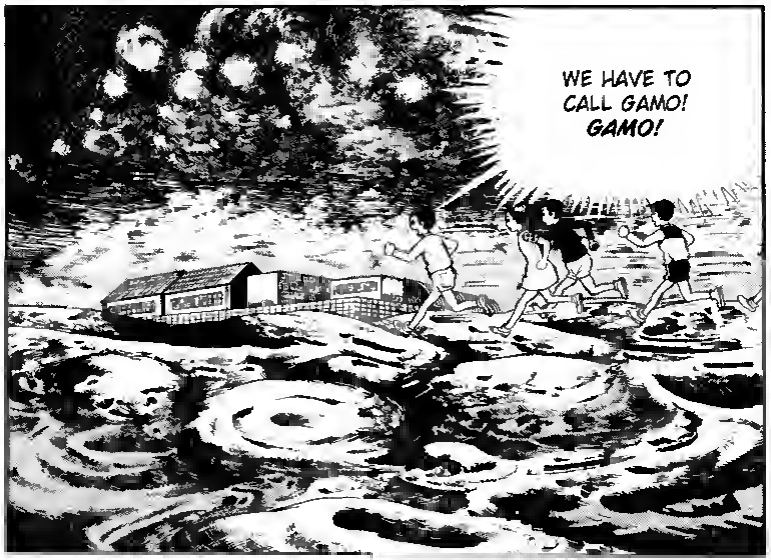
FSH
FSH



SOMEONE WAS KIND ENOUGH TO TAKE CARE OF HASHIMOTO AND CHANGE HIS UNDERWEAR. THAT PERSON MUST BE INFECTED...!

WHOEVER IT WAS CAME THIS WAY!
LOOK! FOOT-PRINTS!
IT LEADS BACK TO THE SCHOOL!
OH! HE FELL AND LEFT A MARK..
IT'S SOMEONE SHORT...!

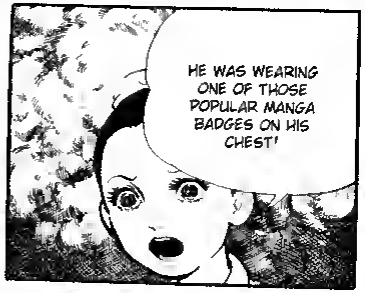
THAT'S TERRIBLE!
THREE PEOPLE?!


WE HAVE TO CALL GAMO! GAMO!

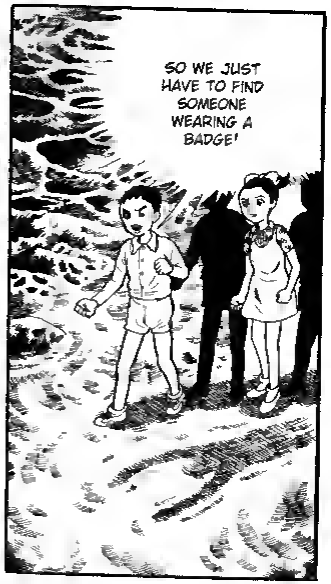
T-T-TAKAMATSU! RUN!
AHA!

HUH?
I KNOW HOW WE CAN IDENTIFY HIM!

SEE? LOOK AT THAT MARK!


HE WAS WEARING ONE OF THOSE POPULAR MANGA BADGES ON HIS CHEST!

WAIT A SECOND..I DON'T THINK IT'S JUST ONE PERSON

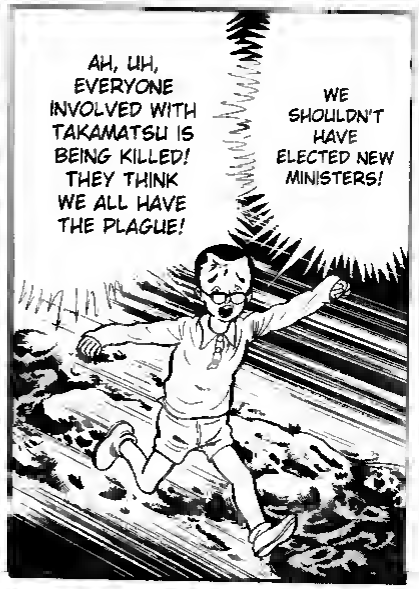

SO WE JUST HAVE TO FIND SOMEONE WEARING A BADGE!

I DON'T THINK ANYONE COULD HAVE MOVED HASHIMOTO SO QUICKLY WITHOUT HELP THERE MUST HAVE BEEN AT LEAST THREE OF THEM!

GAMO!

GASP!

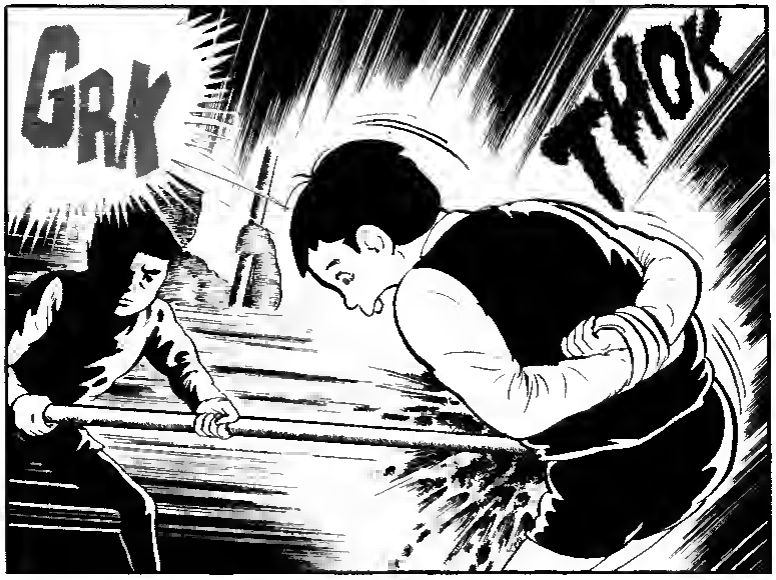
AGH!

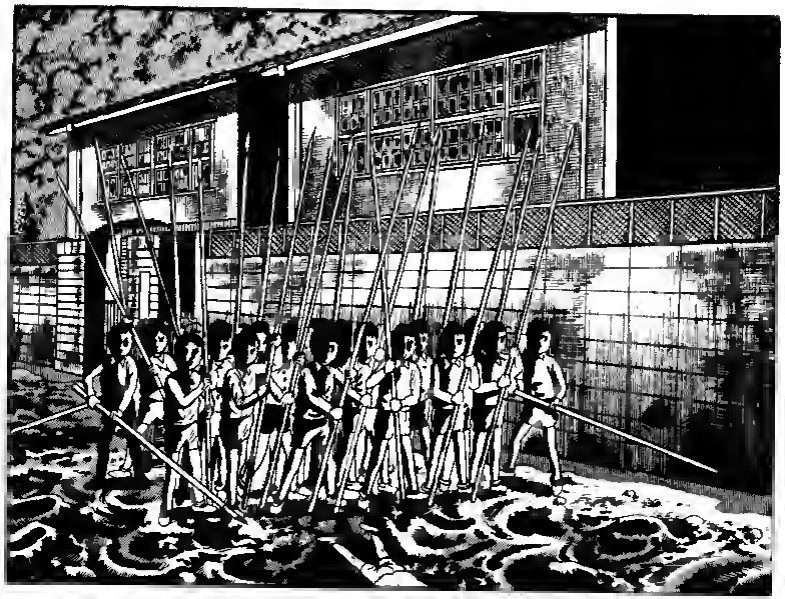

AH, UH, EVERYONE INVOLVED WITH TAKAMATSU IS BEING KILLED! THEY THINK WE ALL HAVE THE PLAGUE!
WE SHOULDN'T HAVE ELECTED NEW MINISTERS!

BAM

HELP! TAKAMATSU'S CHASING ME!
STOP, YOSHIDA!

THEY'RE HOLDING ME CAPTIVE!


GRK
THOK



YOU SAVED ME!

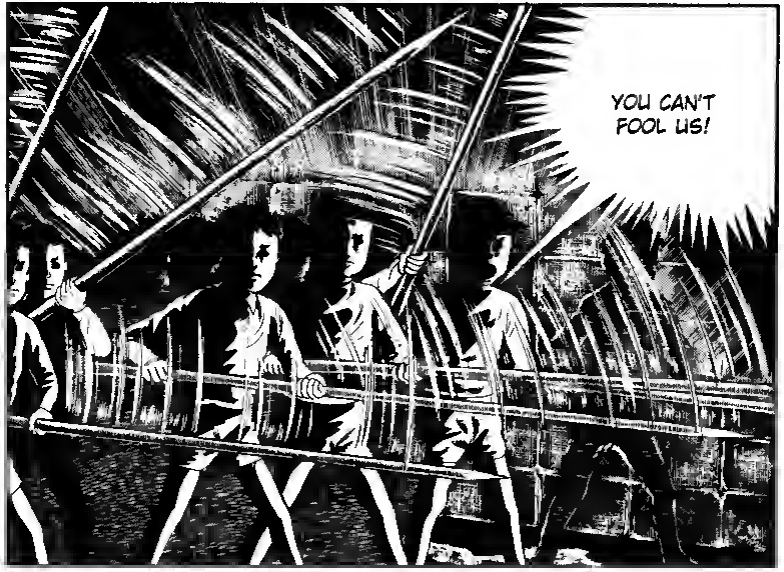
HEY, YOU GUYS!

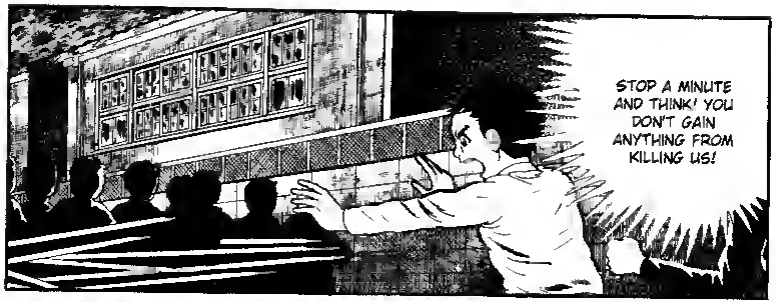
WH-WHAT ...?

WHUOO

YOSHIDA!

OTHER PEOPLE IN THE SCHOOL ARE ALREADY INFECTED!
HOLD ON! THIS IS POINTLESS!


YOU CAN'T FOOL US!

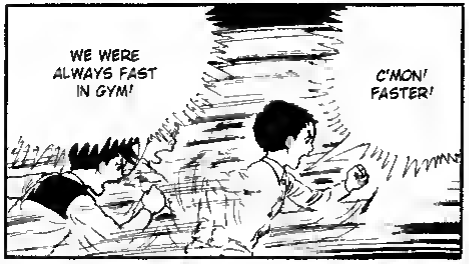

STOP A MINUTE AND THINK! YOU DON'T GAIN ANYTHING FROM KILLING US!

KILL HIM!

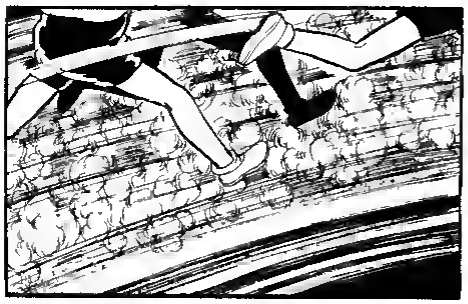
THEY'RE REALLY GOING TO KILL US!
NO!

RUN FOR IT!

THEY'RE COMING FROM BEHIND TOO!


WE WERE ALWAYS FAST IN GYM!
C'MON! FASTER!

WE'RE SURROUNDED!

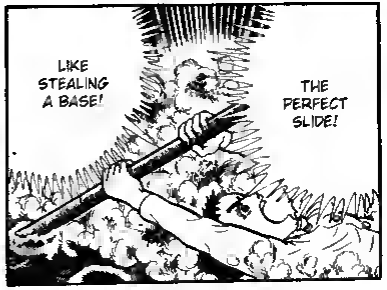


DIE, PLAGUE!

FOLLOW ME AND KEEP RUNNING!

SH-
SHO!
AGGHH!
THUNK

B-BUMP
ARGH


LIKE STEALING A BASE!
THE PERFECT SLIDE!

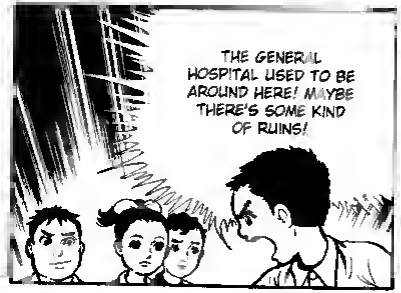
COME ON, RUN!

AHH!
OVER HERE!
S-SAK! WHERE ARE YOU?
PANT PANT
WHUD
WE ALL MADE IT!

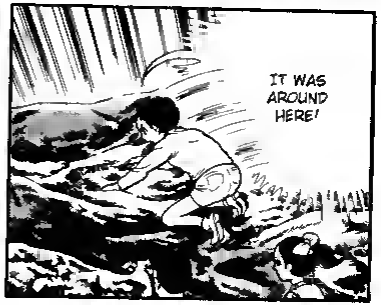
AIEE!
NO ..!
HEY, THEY'RE ATTACKING THEIR OWN GUY ..!
THOK
I'M NOT INFECTED!
HELP! I DIDN'T TOUCH THEM!
THOK
THOK
THOK
AGGHH!

HOLD ON! LET'S FIND A HOSPITAL!

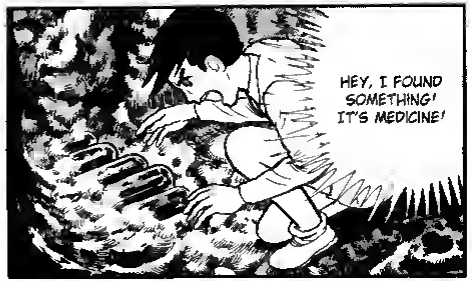
WHO CARES IF WE "MADE IT"?! TOMORROW WE'LL ALL BE SICK!


THE GENERAL HOSPITAL USED TO BE AROUND HERE! MAYBE THERE'S SOME KIND OF RUINS!

WE MIGHT FIND SOME MEDICINE THERE!


IT WAS AROUND HERE!

WHAT!?

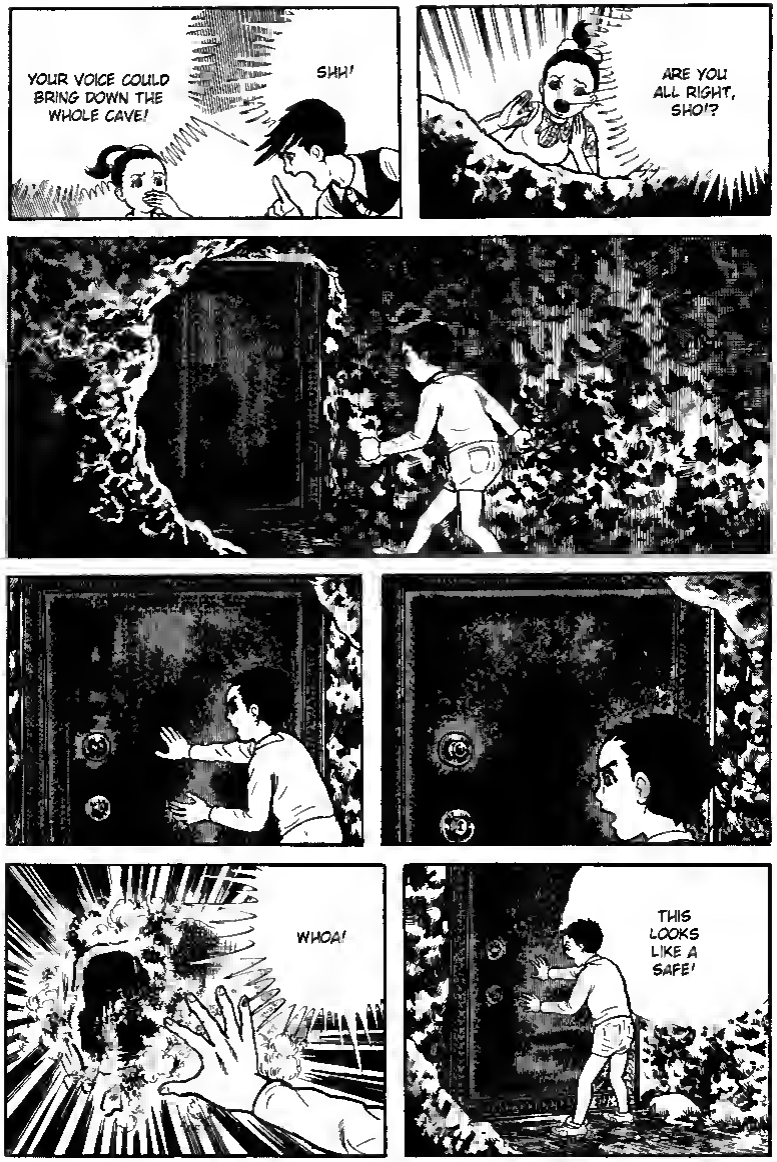

HEY, I FOUND SOMETHING! IT'S MEDICINE!

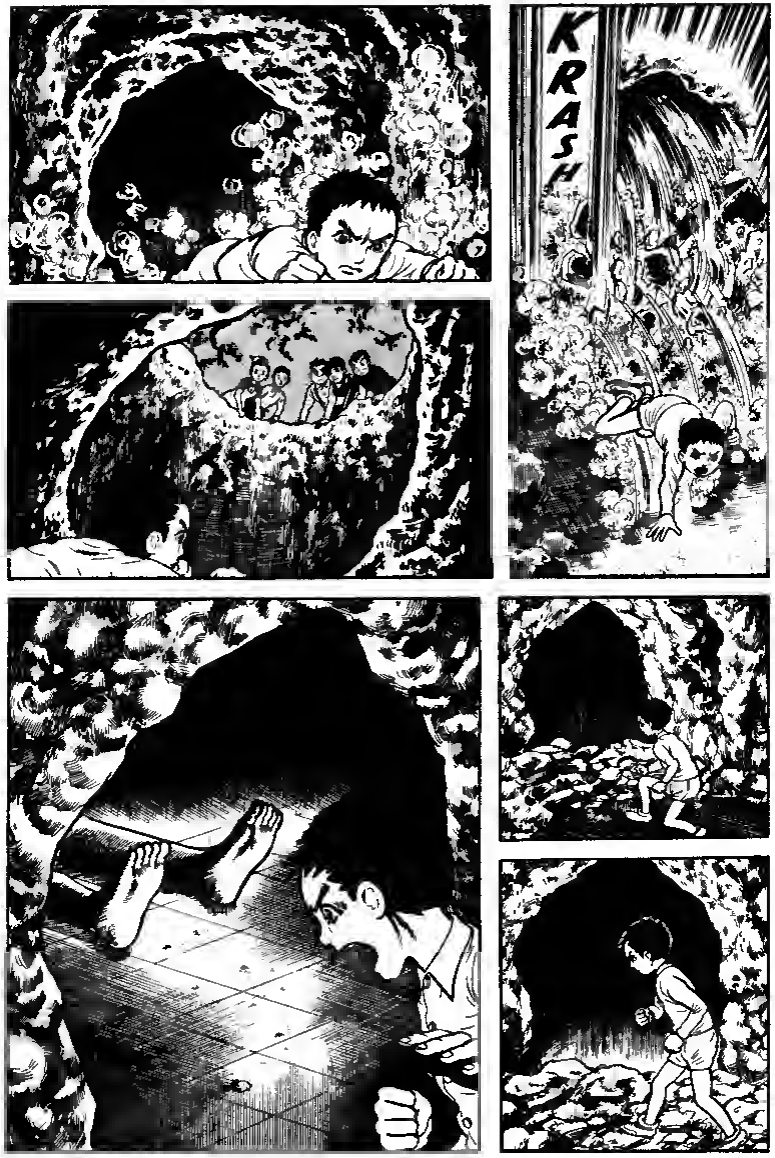
WOW!

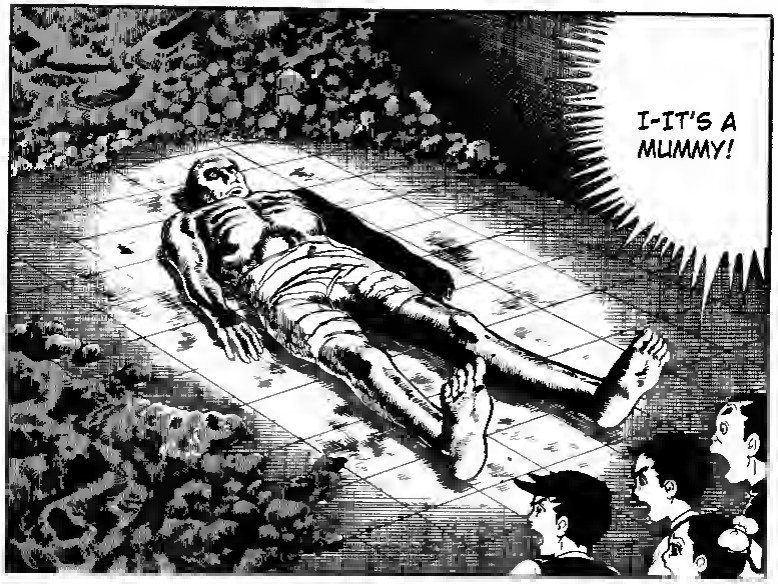
SHOW US!
REALLY!?

WHAT HAPPENED TO THE WORLD!? HOW COULD THIS HAPPEN TO US?
EVERYTHING'S TURNED TO SAND! EVERYTHING AROUND US! THERE'S NOTHING LEFT!
AGGH !!
OTOMO !
WHAT IS THIS PLACE?!
AGGH!
WAAH!
WHAM!

IT'S NO GOOD! IT'S ALL DUST!
GASP!
WHAT WAS THAT!?
YOU CRUSHED IT! YOU'RE TOO CLUMSY!
OTOMO!
TAKE THAT!
SAY THAT AGAIN, YOU BASTARD!


I'M ALL RIGHT!
TAKAMATSU!
THERE'S A CAVERN.
WE'RE COMING DOWN!
IT MUST BE THE HOSPITAL BASEMENT!
HOLD ON! IT MIGHT COLLAPSE IF YOU ALL COME DOWN HERE I'LL GO ALONE!
YOUR VOICE COULD BRING DOWN THE WHOLE CAVE!
SHH!
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, SHO!?
WHOA!
THIS LOOKS LIKE A SAFE!

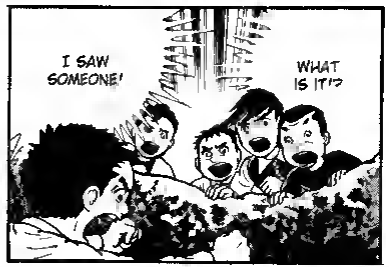

KRASH

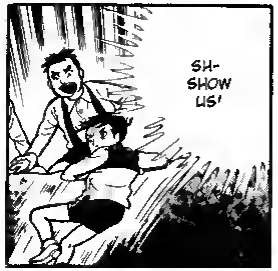

I-IT'S A MUMMY!

SHH...!

THIS MUST BE THE HOSPITAL MORGUE!

YOU SAW WHAT!?

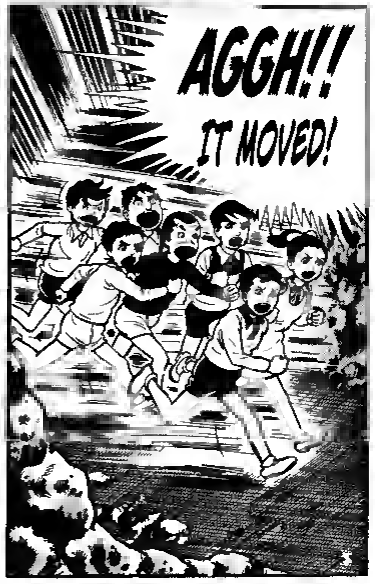

I SAW SOMEONE!
WHAT IS IT!?


SH-SHOW US!

IT'S TRUE!

TH-THAT'S CRAZY!

AHH!


AGGH!!
IT MOVED!

MAYBE IT'S COMING AFTER US...!?
YOU ALL SAW IT! IT MOVED!
PANT... PANT...
SHH!
OH NO, IT'S GETTING DARK!
WHO IS IT..?
S-SOMEONE'S COMING FROM THE SAME DIRECTION WE CAME!
SHUF

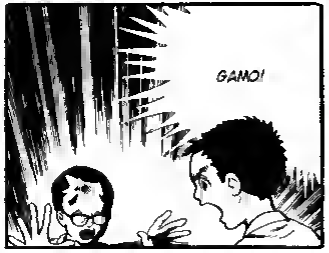
KRSSH
IT MOVED! THE CORPSE MOVED!
HUFF! HUFF!

SHUF

SHUF

AIEE!

TUH...TUH...
TAKAMATSU!


GAMO!

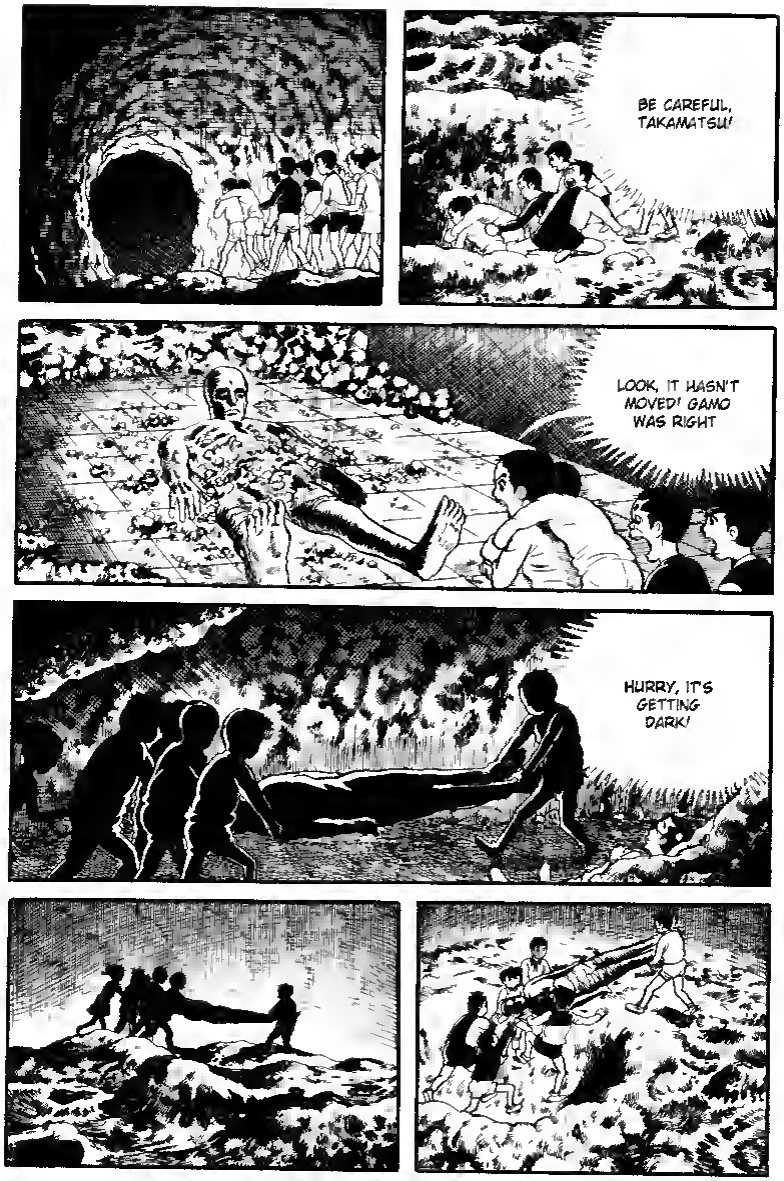
SO YOU
ESCAPED!?

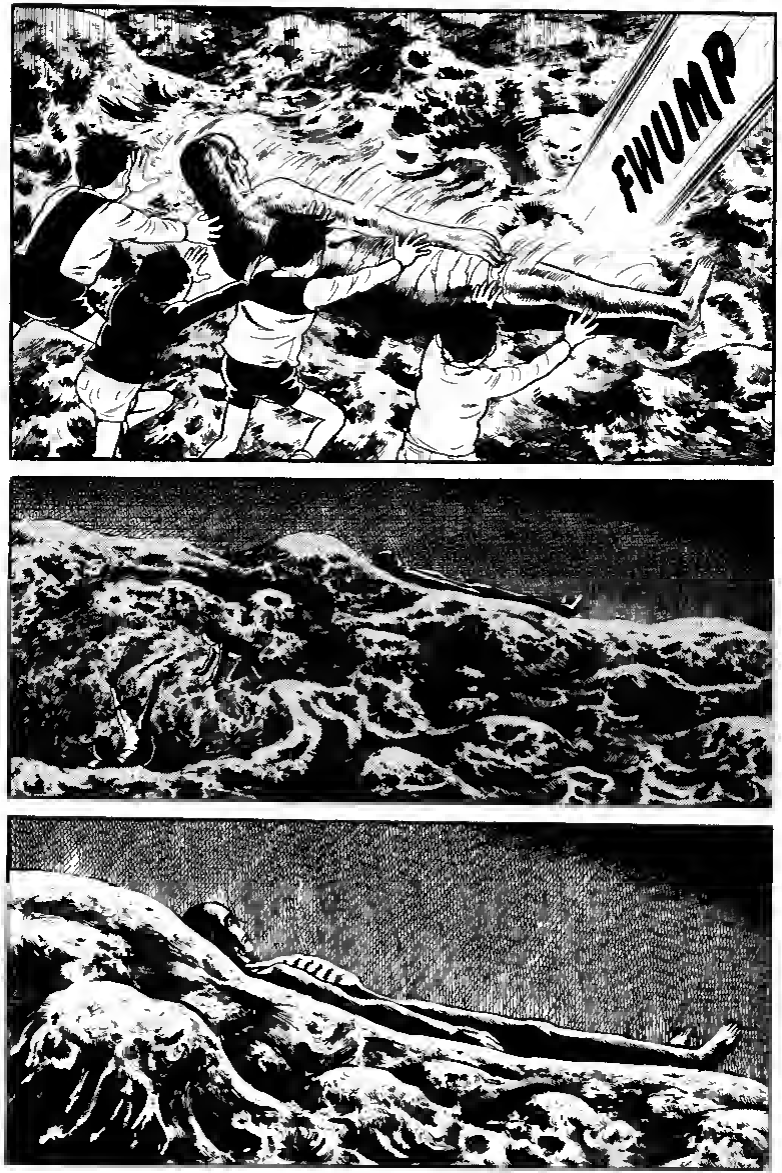
GAMO!
THAT'S WHY I MADE IT THIS FAR
YOU CAN'T STOP ME! I'M GOING TO JOIN YOU
SHO!
IF YOU REALLY MEAN IT..THEN COME HERE!
THANK YOU!

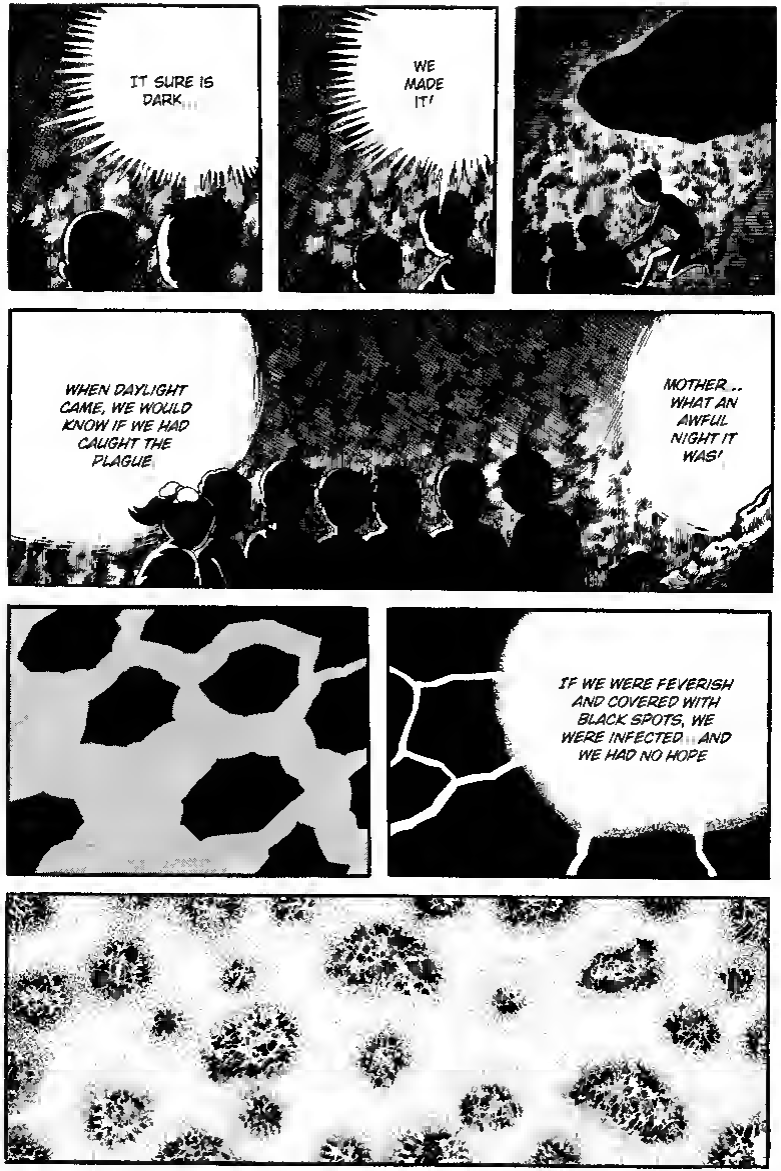
T..
TAKAMATSU
...
YOU'RE NOT A GHOST, ARE YOU?!
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO SHOULD BE AFRAID!
D-DON'T BE AFRAID C-CAN I COME CLOSER?
WE'VE GOT THE BLACK PLAGUE! IF YOU GET TOO CLOSE, YOU'LL CATCH IT TOO!
TAKAMATSU ...!
BUT GAMO! YOU SHOULDN'T ...!
IF YOU'RE INFECTED, THEN I DON'T CARE IF I GET INFECTED!
I DON'T CARE!

WE HAVE TO DIG A HOLE FOR SHELTER!
IT'S GETTING DARKER AND DARKER! WE'LL FREEZE TO DEATH IF WE DON'T DO SOMETHING!
EVERYTHING ELSE HAS CRUMBLED TO DUST, BUT THAT BASEMENT MANAGED TO PRESERVE THAT MUMMY! WHICH MEANS IT'S SAFE THERE!
WHAT!?
THAT'LL TAKE TOO LONG. THE ONLY SHELTER WE HAVE IS THAT MUMMY'S BASEMENT!
WE'LL GET RID OF THE MUMMY BEFORE WE SPEND THE NIGHT.
LET'S GO!

I ..I WANTED TO TELL YOU... THE MUMMY IN THE BASEMENT WAS PROBABLY BLOATED BECAUSE OF ITS EXPOSURE TO HUMIDITY.
TH... THAT'S WHAT MADE IT MOVE
GAMO! GAMO!
AH!


BE CAREFUL, TAKAMATSU!
LOOK, IT HASN'T MOVED! GAMO WAS RIGHT
HURRY, IT'S GETTING DARK!


FWUMP


IT SURE IS DARK...
WE MADE IT!
WHEN DAYLIGHT CAME, WE WOULD KNOW IF WE HAD CAUGHT THE PLAGUE
MOTHER .. WHAT AN AWFUL NIGHT IT WAS!
IF WE WERE FEVERISH AND COVERED WITH BLACK SPOTS, WE WERE INFECTED AND WE HAD NO HOPE

IT'S MORNING!
CHECK YOURSELVES FOR BLACK SPOTS!
DOES ANYONE HAVE A FEVER?
HUH? ALREADY ..?

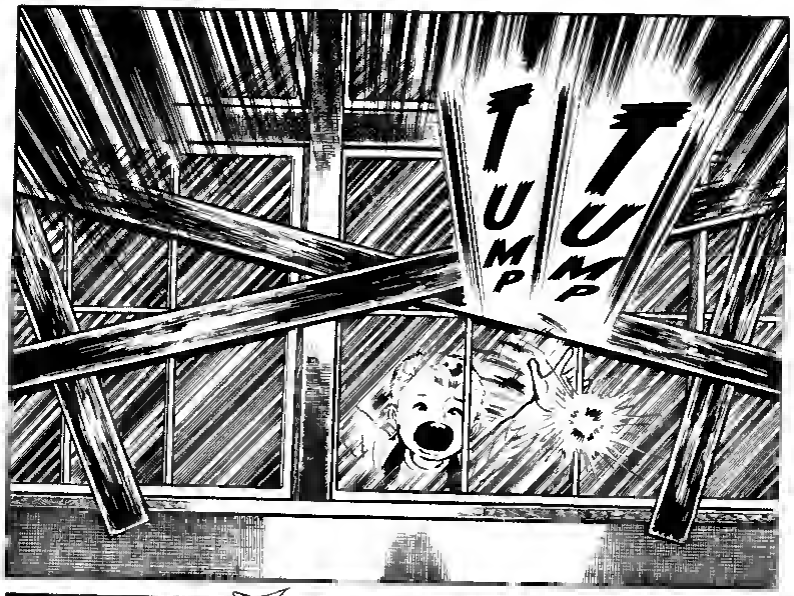
UM...ER...WELL, WE SOMEHOW MADE IT. BUT NOW WHAT DO WE DO?
YOU DO!? WHERE!?
HUH?!
I KNOW WHERE WE CAN FIND FOOD!
WE STILL NEED FOOD AND WATER...!
THE MUMMY ?!
WHAT?!
THAT MUMMY...!
SHIBATA'S RIGHT! WE CAN'T DO THAT... NOT WHILE THERE'S ANY OTHER CHOICE!
B-BUT IT'S HUMAN!
I'M SERIOUS. HUMAN FLESH IS FULL OF PROTEIN AND IT'S NOT LIKE WE KILLED HIM

WE WEREN'T INFECTED!
ME TOO!
NO FEVER, NO SPOTS! LOOK!
HURRAY!
WE THOUGHT YOU WERE DEAD!
GAMO!?
WHAT TIME IS IT?
HUH!?
NO...UH...MY STOMACH IS ALIVE AND WELL...AND WE'RE STILL ON THIS BARREN, FUTURE EARTH...!
GURGLE

THE PLAGUE MIGHT HAVE SPREAD THROUGHOUT THE SCHOOL!
I'M WORRIED ABOUT YU, NISHI AND THE OTHERS!
WE HAVE TO HURRY BACK AND QUARANTINE ANYONE WHO CAME INTO CONTACT WITH HASHIMOTO!
N-N-NO! DON'T DO IT!
I'M HEADING BACK TO THE SCHOOL!
WE ALSO NEED FOOD AND WATER!
THEY KILL ANYONE WHO TRIES TO LEAVE!
THE SCHOOL'S HEAVILY GUARDED!
TAKAMATSU!
I HAVE TO FIND A WAY TO GET IN!
BUT WE HAVE TO STOP THE PLAGUE...!
OTOMO, YOU AND THE OTHERS STAY HERE AND LOOK FOR MEDICINE.
OKAY!
I WANT YOU TO KEEP WATCH AND MAKE SURE I GET INSIDE. I'M APPOINTING YOU CHIEF OF MEDICAL AFFAIRS!
LET'S GO!
GOT IT!
I'LL BE ALL RIGHT!
SHO, BE CAREFUL!

THERE'S THE SCHOOL!
AHA!
COME ON, LET'S GET CLOSER.
BANG
BANG
WHAT ARE THEY DOING...?
BANG
BANG

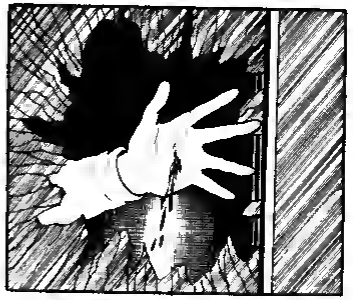
BANG
BANG
OH MY GOD! IT'S YU!

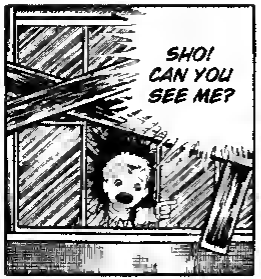

TUMP
TUMP

KRASH

TUMP
TUMP

YAHH
YAHH




SHO! CAN YOU SEE ME?

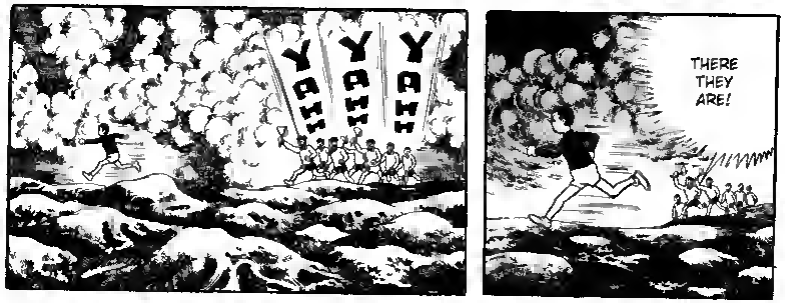
HEY SHO! IT'S ME!

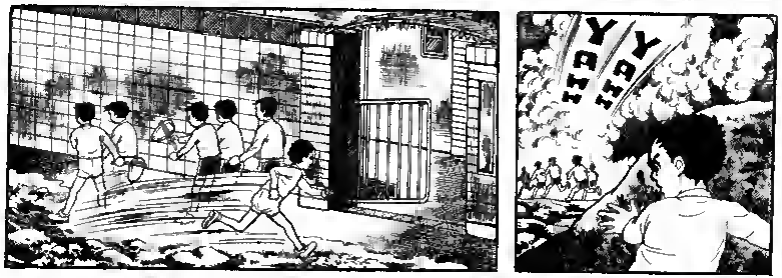
LOOK, IT'S SHO!

SHO!

HELP MEE!

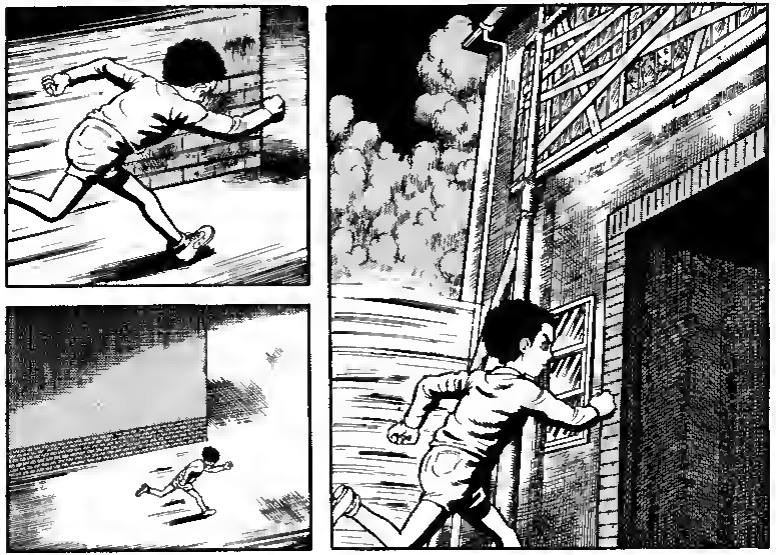
GO FOR IT WHILE I DISTRACT THEM!
OKAY, TAKAMATSU! I'LL LURE THEM OUT SO YOU CAN SNEAK IN!
THEY SAW US!

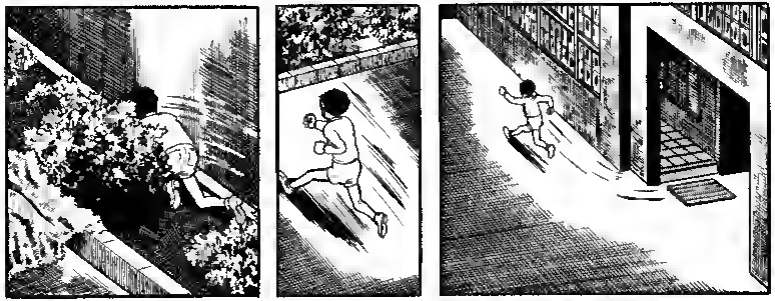

YAH!
YAH!
YAH!
THERE THEY ARE!

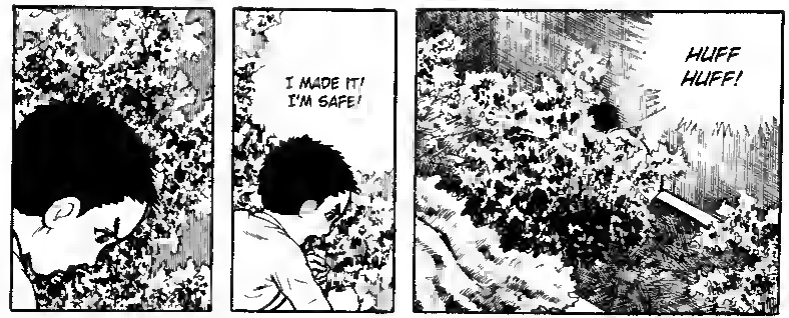

YAH!
YAH!

CHAPTER 22
THE BEASTS
SHO!
SHO!

SHH!





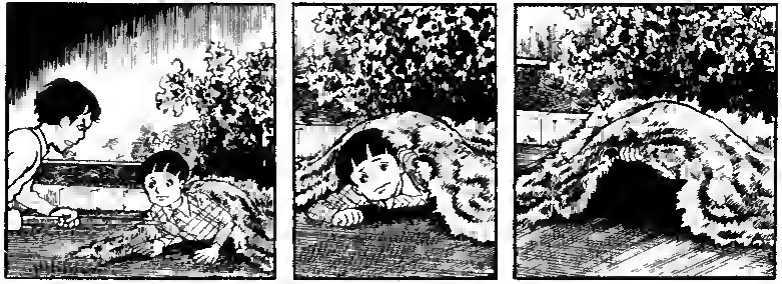

I MADE IT! I'M SAFE!
HUFF HUFF!

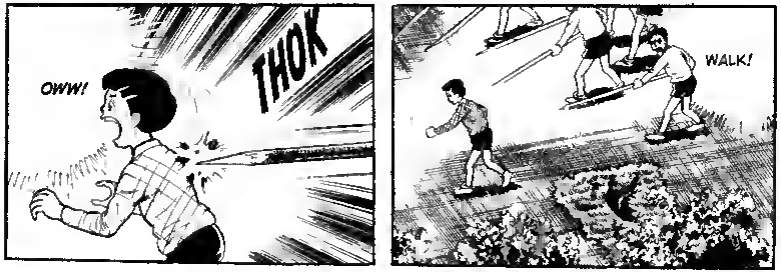
HUH?!

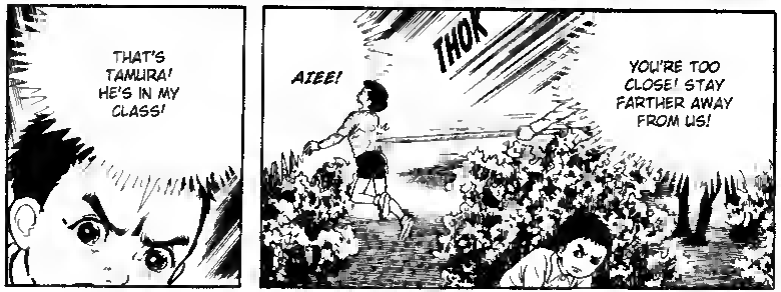
COME OUT!

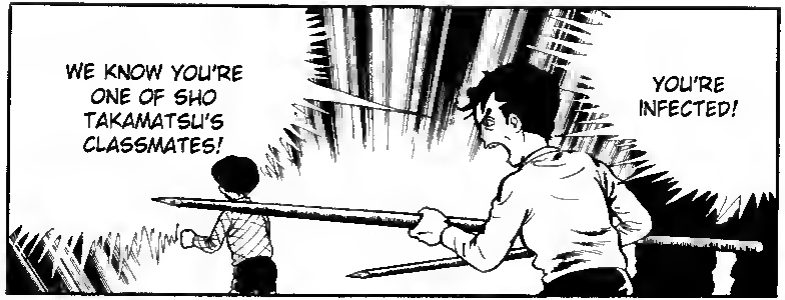
WE KNOW YOU'RE HIDING THERE!

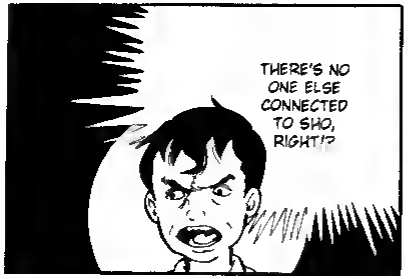
GET UP OR WE'LL STAB YOU!



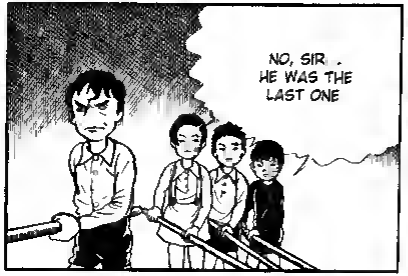

OWW!
THOK
WALK!

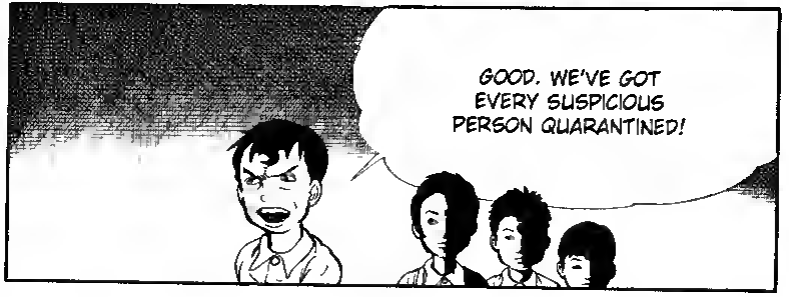

THAT'S TAMURA! HE'S IN MY CLASS!
AIEE!
THOK
YOU'RE TOO CLOSE! STAY FARTHER AWAY FROM US!

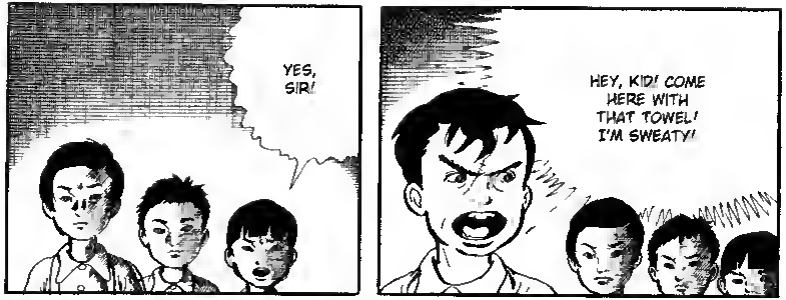

WE KNOW YOU'RE ONE OF SHO TAKAMATSU'S CLASSMATES!
YOU'RE INFECTED!

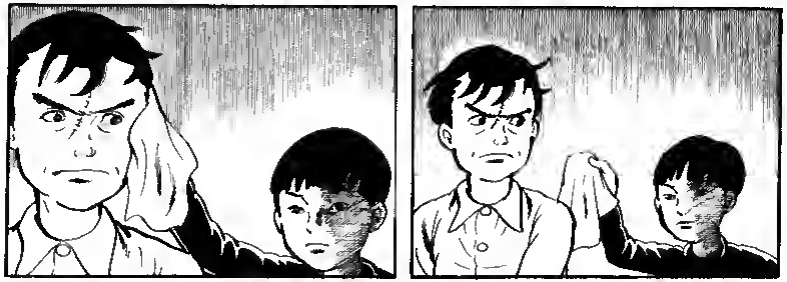

THERE'S NO ONE ELSE CONNECTED TO SHO, RIGHT!?

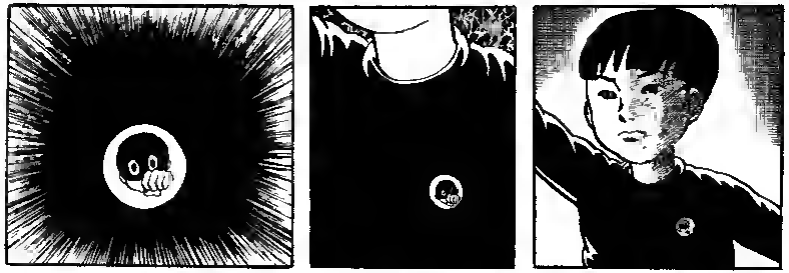
YES, SIR!
YOU GUYS, LOCK HIM UP IN THE OLD BUILDING!

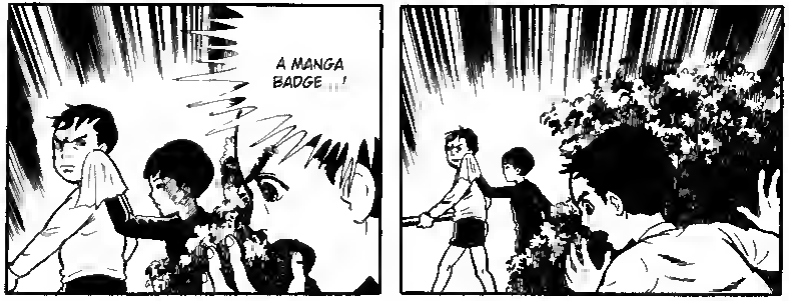

NO, SIR . HE WAS THE LAST ONE


GOOD. WE'VE GOT EVERY SUSPICIOUS PERSON QUARANTINED!


YES, SIR!
HEY, KID! COME HERE WITH THAT TOWEL! I'M SWEATY!

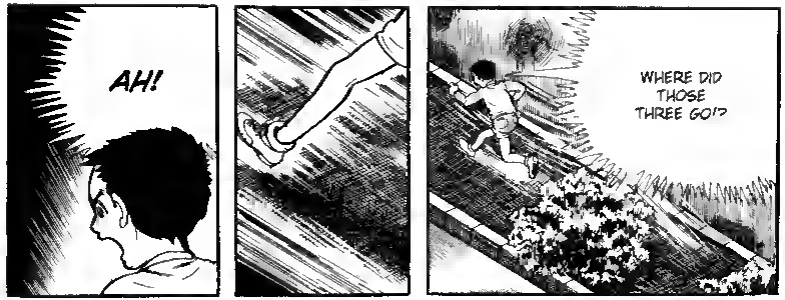


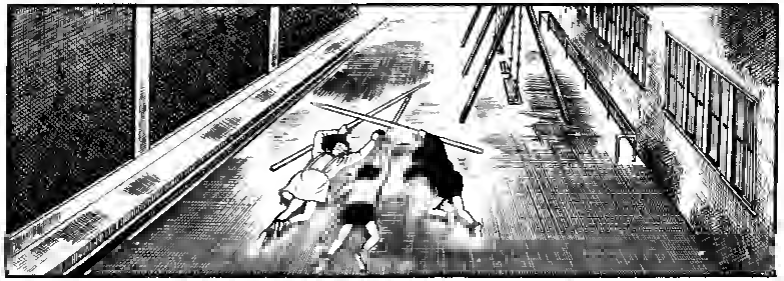


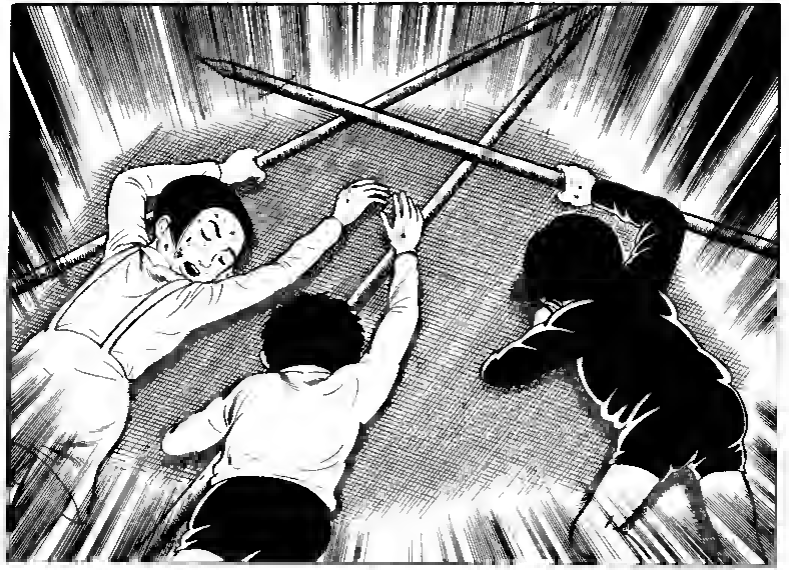

A MANGA BADGE . . !

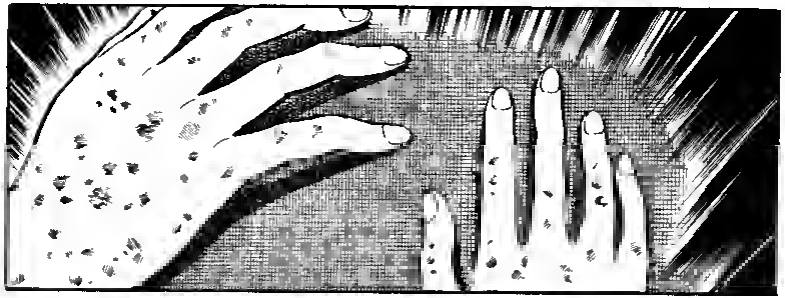
THAT'S ENOUGH! GO JOIN THE OTHERS!
MAYBE HE'S THE ONE WHO'S INFECTED ..!
ALL RIGHT!
AH!
WHAT IS IT, SIR?

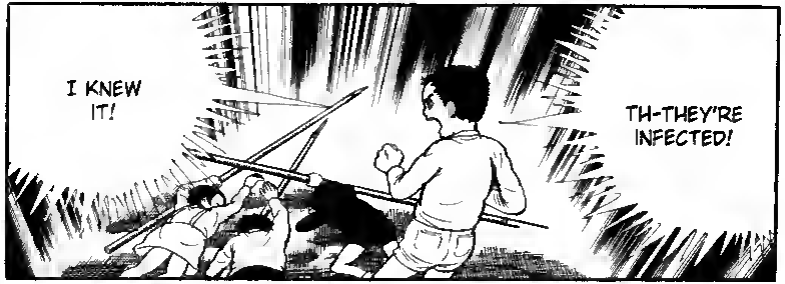
I'M A LITTLE DIZZY!
I DON'T FEEL TOO GOOD EITHER .
HAH, IT'S NOTHING! JUST A COLD!
HOLD ON! YOU DON'T HAVE A FEVER, DO YOU?!
SH- SHUT UP!
M-MAYBE WE'RE INFECTED!
THAT'LL REDUCE THE SCHOOL POPULATION BY HALF! THEN WE'LL HAVE TWICE AS MUCH FOOD!
WE NEED TO START A FIRE AND BURN DOWN THE BUILDING WITH ALL THE SICK PEOPLE!
IT'S SPREADING!
THEY'RE ALL INFECTED! I WAS TOO LATE!
YES, SIR!
NOW GET TO IT!


AH!
WHERE DID THOSE THREE GO!?



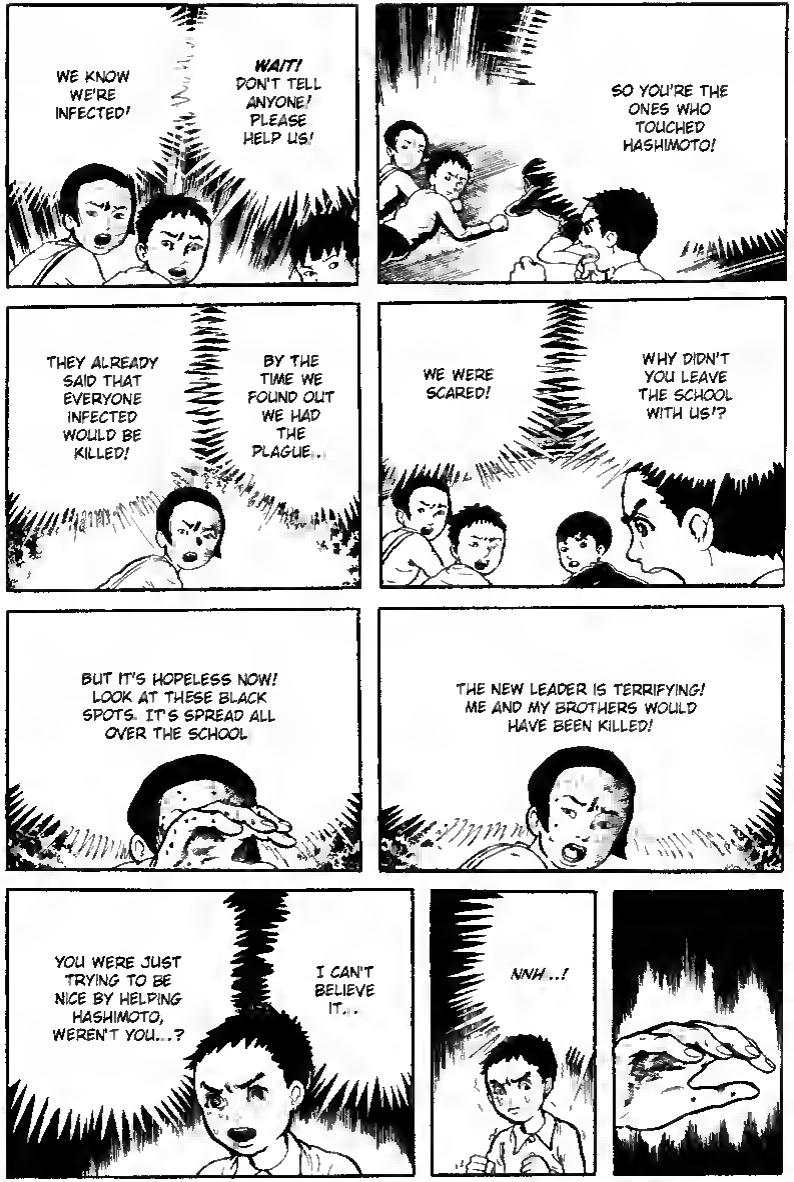


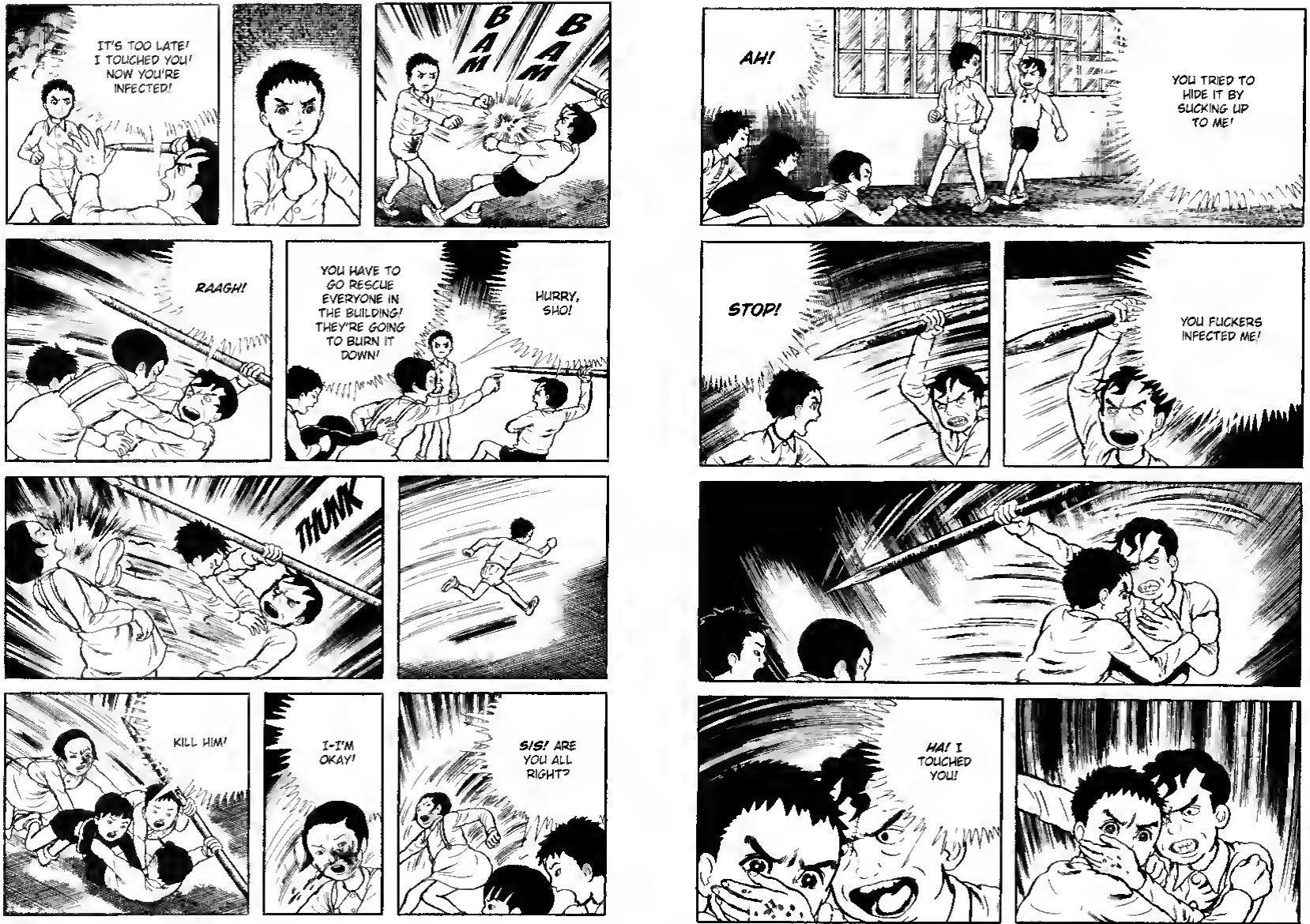



I KNEW IT!
TH-THEY'RE INFECTED!

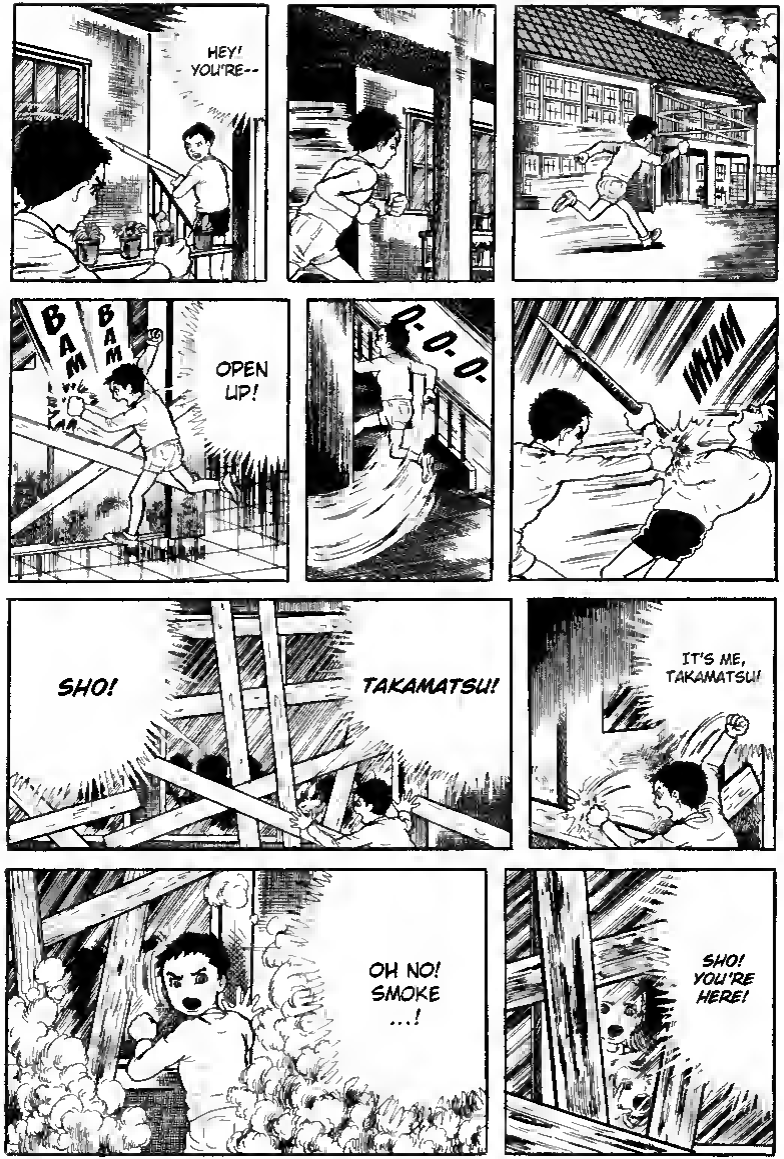
SH-SHO!

IF YOU HADN'T HELPED HASHIMOTO, NO ONE WOULD HAVE BEEN INFECTED...!
ALWAYS BE KIND TO OTHERS...THAT'S WHAT THEY TAUGHT US IN SCHOOL!
I DON'T WANT TO DIE!
PLEASE!
TH-THERE MUST BE A CURE!
SOB...!
IF YOU CAN'T SAVE ME, SAVE MY BROTHERS!
DON'T ABANDON US!
DON'T GO!
SO YOU BRATS ARE THE ONES WHO SPREAD THE PLAGUE!
SIS!

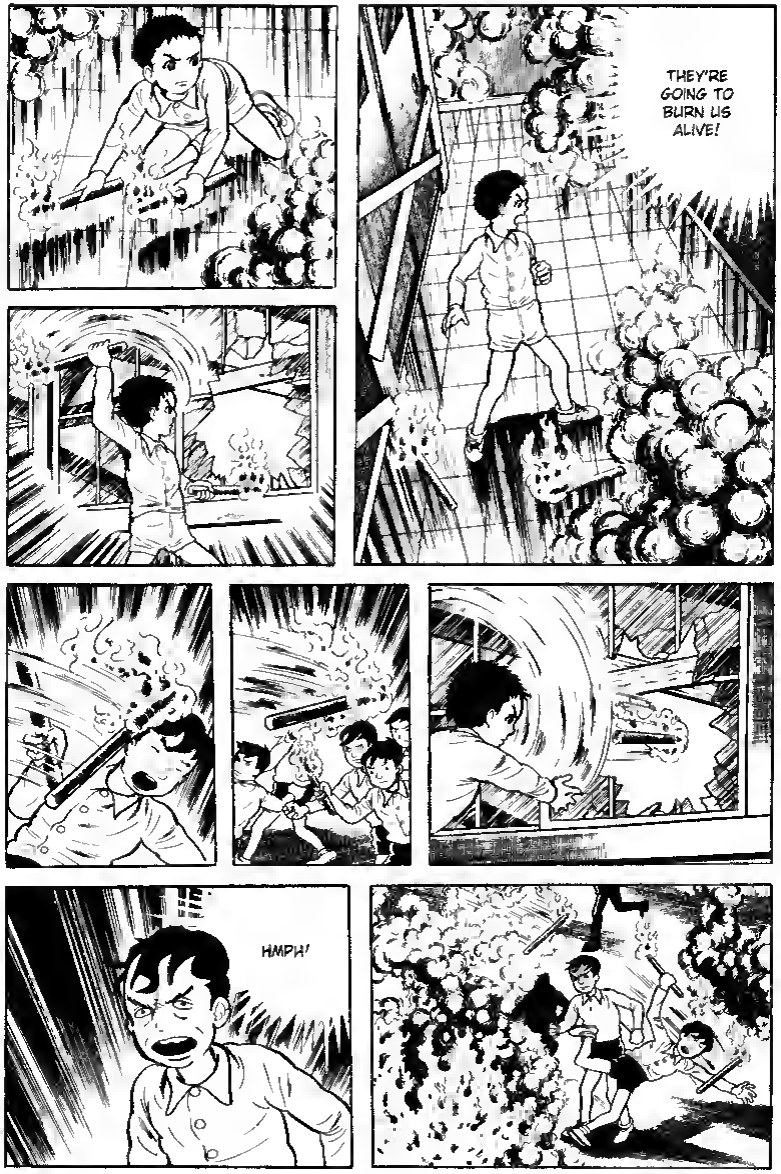

WE KNOW WE'RE INFECTED!
WAIT! DON'T TELL ANYONE! PLEASE HELP US!
SO YOU'RE THE ONES WHO TOUCHED HASHIMOTO!
THEY ALREADY SAID THAT EVERYONE INFECTED WOULD BE KILLED!
BY THE TIME WE FOUND OUT WE HAD THE PLAGUE...
WE WERE SCARED!
WHY DIDN'T YOU LEAVE THE SCHOOL WITH US!?
BUT IT'S HOPELESS NOW! LOOK AT THESE BLACK SPOTS. IT'S SPREAD ALL OVER THE SCHOOL
THE NEW LEADER IS TERRIFYING! ME AND MY BROTHERS WOULD HAVE BEEN KILLED!
YOU WERE JUST TRYING TO BE NICE BY HELPING HASHIMOTO, WEREN'T YOU...?
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT...
NNH...!

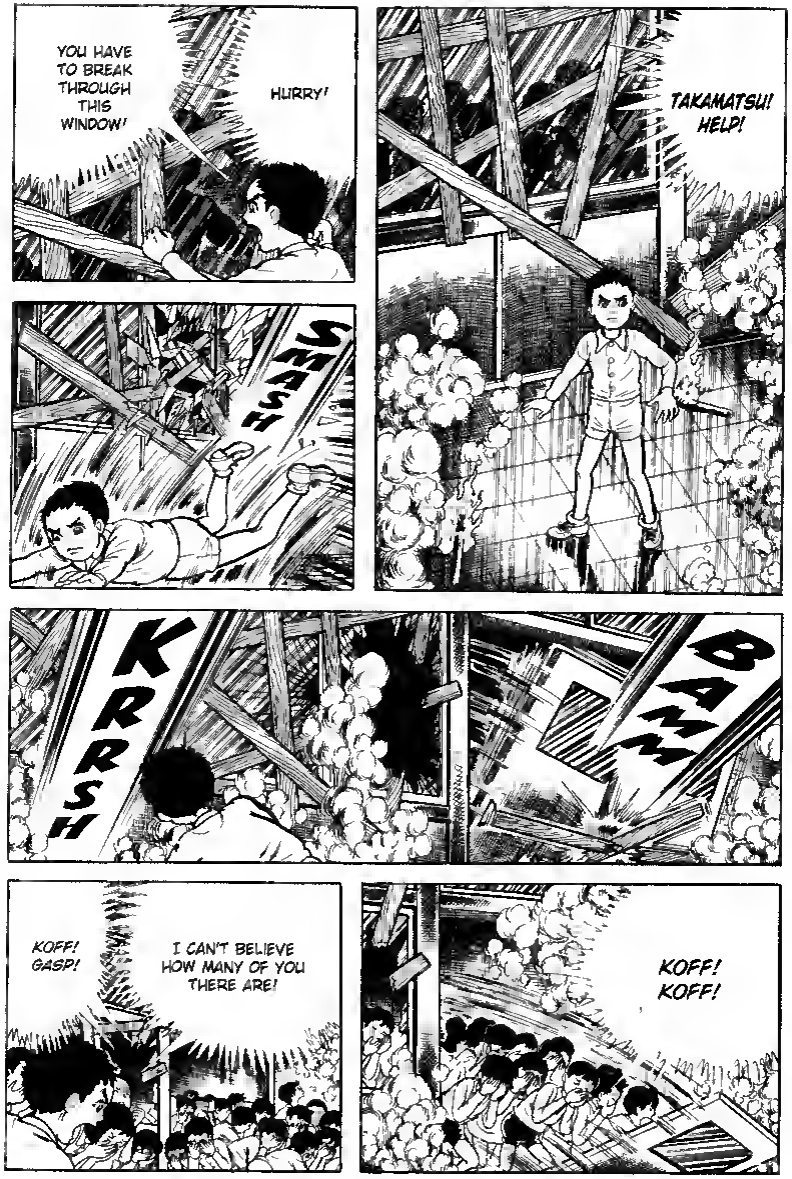

AH!
YOU TRIED TO HIDE IT BY SUCKING UP TO ME!
STOP!
YOU FUCKERS INFECTED ME!
HA! I TOUCHED YOU!
IT'S TOO LATE! I TOUCHED YOU! NOW YOU'RE INFECTED!
BAM
BAM
RAAGH!
YOU HAVE TO GO RESCUE EVERYONE IN THE BUILDING! THEY'RE GOING TO BURN IT DOWN!
HURRY, SHO!
THUNK
KILL HIM!
I-I'M OKAY!
SIS! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

KRAK
AGGH!
UGH!
IF I'M INFECTED, I'M GONNA MAKE SURE EVERYONE'S INFECTED!
NO!
GET OFF ME!
THOK
KUNCH

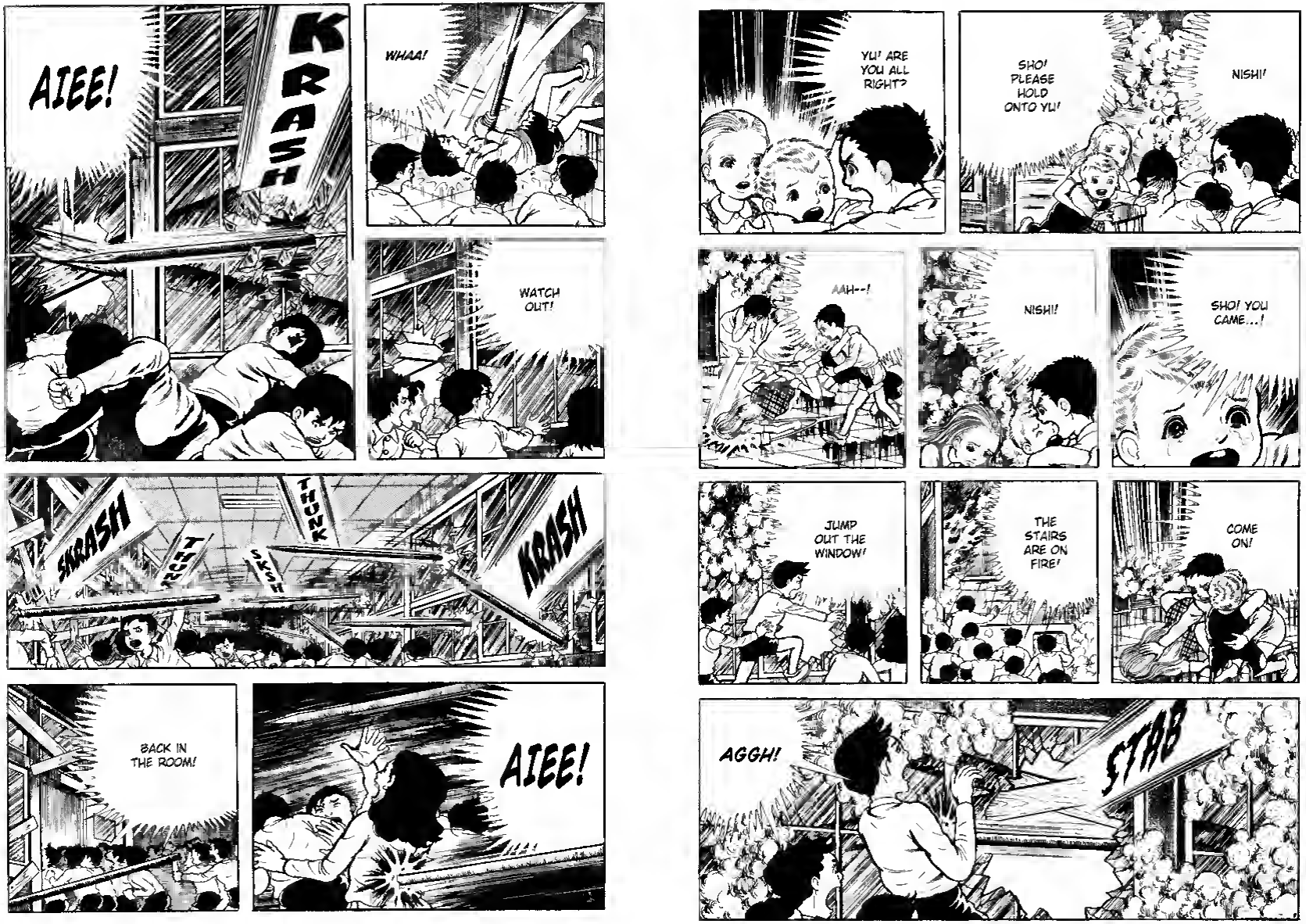

HEY! YOU'RE--
BAM BAM BAM
OPEN UP!
R.O.O.
WHAM!
SHO!
TAKAMATSU!
IT'S ME, TAKAMATSU!
OH NO! SMOKE ...!
SHO! YOU'RE HERE!

SKRASH
THE BUILDING'S ON FIRE!
RAA RAA

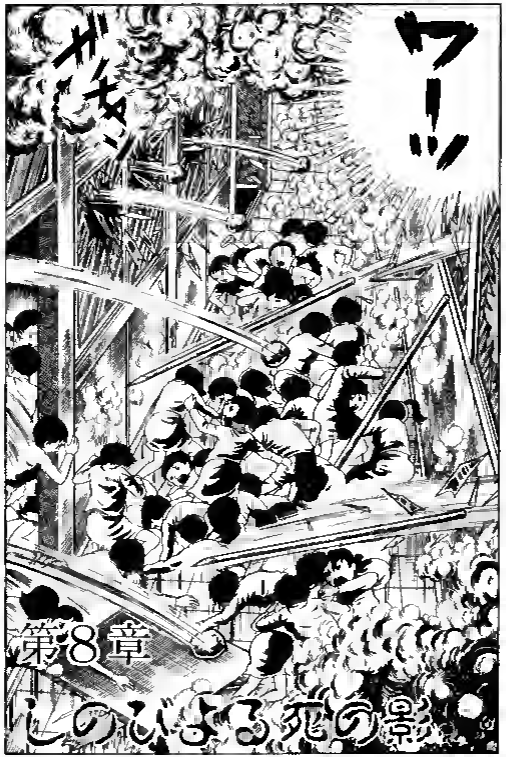

THEY'RE GOING TO BURN US ALIVE!
HMPH!


YOU HAVE TO BREAK THROUGH THIS WINDOW!
HURRY!
TAKAMATSU! HELP!
SMASH
KRRSH
BAM
KOFF! GASP!
I CAN'T BELIEVE HOW MANY OF YOU THERE ARE!
KOFF! KOFF!

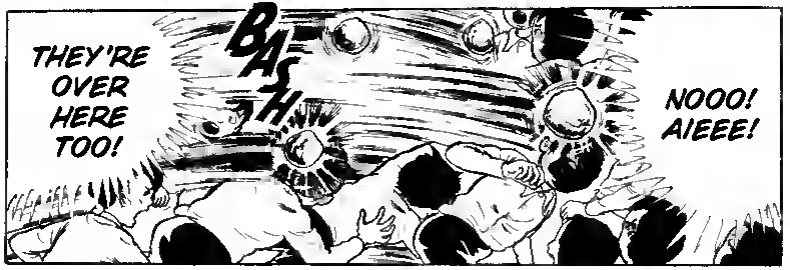
DON'T LET THEM ESCAPE!
GO ON, BURN IT DOWN!
BAH
WE HAVE TO INCINERATE THEM! THEY'RE THE PLAGUE!

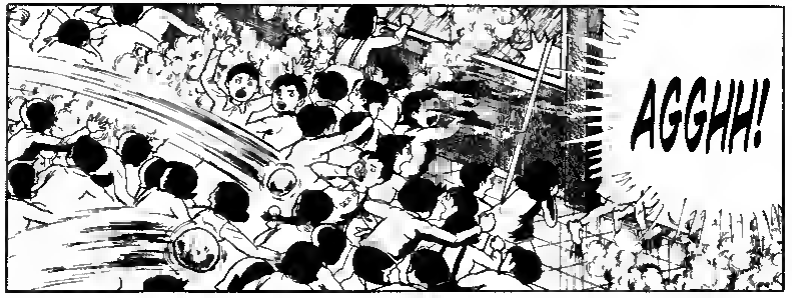

YU! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
SHO! PLEASE HOLD ONTO YU!
NISHI!
AAH--!
NISHI!!
SHO! YOU CAME...!
JUMP OUT THE WINDOW!
THE STAIRS ARE ON FIRE!
COME ON!
AGGH!
STAB
AIEE!
KRASH
WHAA!
WATCH OUT!
SMASH
THUNK
KRASH
BACK IN THE ROOM!
AIEE!

IN THE NEXT VOLUME...

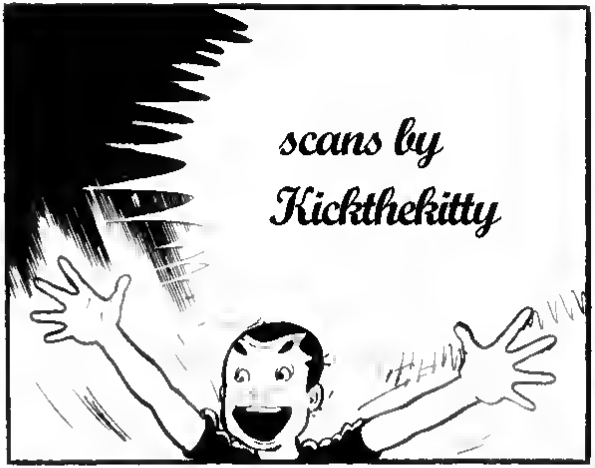


As the plague spreads throughout the school, the students fight each other to the bitter end! Back in the past, Sho's mother hears her son's cries for help...but how can she save her son now?
AVAILABLE JUNE 2007!





TO BE CONTINUED...


scans by
Kickthekitty

HURRAY!

Archer2255